

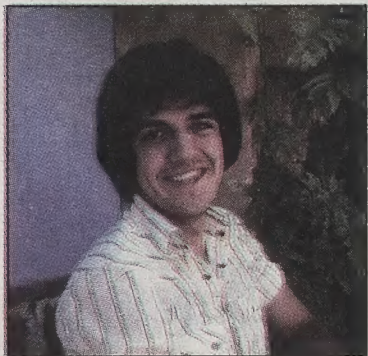
The Middlebury Campus

Vol. 107, No. 1

Thursday, September 11, 2008

Since 1905

College community mourns recent losses



Nicholas Garza '11

By James Kerrigan
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Tragedy struck the College at the end of the spring when the College community learned of the death of Nicholas Garza '11, whose body was recovered from Otter Creek on May 27. President Ronald D. Liebowitz notified the College community in an email sent to all students, faculty and staff at 9:51 p.m. on the night of the discovery.

The finding brought closure to an exhaustive four-month search that began after Garza disappeared on the night of Feb. 5. Middlebury Chief of Police Tom Hanley located the first-year while checking water temperatures in Otter Creek.

Dean of the College Tim Spears, Associate Dean Gus Jordan and twelve Middlebury students made the cross-country trip to attend the funeral service on June 28 in Garza's hometown of Albuquerque, N.M.

Despite only a semester and a Winter Term of studying at Middlebury, Garza touched so many. Spears' remarks at the funeral reflected the impact Garza made on all those around him.

Friends described him as curious, passionate and easy to be around.

"Sometimes I'd walk down the hall when the floor was quiet and crack open his door," said friend and classmate Brian Watroba '11. "Hey Bri-Guy, [Nick] would say, without really looking up. I felt so natural around him I never knocked, and sometimes I'd just go in and sit there at his desk ... and neither of us would say anything for a short while. He'd look at me with a certain sincerity and vulnerability that he didn't normally show. Sometimes we'd share something small, and sometimes he or I would share something personal, but the thing I remember most is how I felt so in-

SEE GARZA, PAGE 2



Pavlo Levkiv '11

By Jaime Fuller
NEWS EDITOR

The College community lost one of its most promising young students on August 1, after Pavlo Levkiv '11 drowned while swimming in New Jersey.

A memorial service was held in the 19-year-old's honor on Aug. 5 in his hometown of Rockaway Township, N.J., and 250 people gathered to remember the young man they had grown to love and admire.

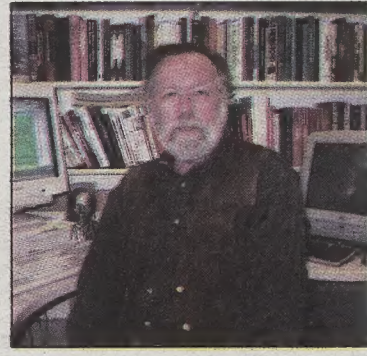
Although Levkiv called Rockaway Township, a community of over 20,000 thirty-five miles from New York City, his home, his roots lay in Ukraine. He was no stranger to hardship even from birth, when

a lack of oxygen to the brain from an umbilical cord wrapped around his neck led to a diagnosis of cerebral palsy. At age 6, he moved from Europe to the United States, and quickly made his mark on his new community.

He excelled in academics and was accepted to the Newark Academy, where he competed on the cross-country and wrestling teams. The outdoors played a major point in his life; he enjoyed running and hiked mountains all across the country, including the highest peak in the continental U.S., Mount Whitney. The Island Beach State Park, where the accident occurred, was a favorite retreat of Levkiv and his father, Serhiy Levkov. The father and son frequented the park, often straying as far as 1,200 feet from a lifeguard in order to enjoy idyllic waters far from the crowd, never encountering any trouble until August 1, when an unexpected rip current took Levkiv's life.

It did not take much to admire the liveliness and passion of Levkiv because he was in no danger of a shortage of either. He embraced all aspects of life, whether academic

SEE LEVKIV, PAGE 2



David Macey

By Jack Lysohir
MANAGING EDITOR

Professor of History and Russian Studies and longtime director of Middlebury College's program in international studies, David A.J. Macey passed away on Aug. 10. The 30-year veteran of the Middlebury faculty will be remembered for his renowned scholarship, his vision for Middlebury's international curriculum and his love of all sides of any argument.

Born in England, Macey traveled extensively as a member of the British Merchant Navy. He met his wife Phyllis while she was on

SEE MACEY, PAGE 2

Liebowitz joins with peers, signs McCardell's initiative

By Livingston Burgess
NEWS EDITOR

The so-called "work hard, play hard" ethic returned to Middlebury this week, along with its adherents. The two come on the heels of a summer that saw President Emeritus John M. McCardell, founder of the group Choose Responsibility, develop the "Amethyst Initiative" in an effort to generate discussion about the effectiveness of the 21-year-old drinking age. The initiative includes, as its visible centerpiece, a "Presidential State-

ment," whose 129 signers include President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz

The statement, available on the initiative's website, www.amethystinitiative.org, summarizes Amethyst's goals, calling for, among other things, "an informed and dispassionate public debate over the effects of the 21-year-old drinking age." It does not explicitly reference the proposals of Choose Responsibility, such as legal age 18 or licensing young adults to drink, as Liebowitz pointed out in an entry on his blog explaining the decision

to sign on to the initiative.

"The 18-year drinking age is not even mentioned in the Amethyst petition," he wrote. "Many [college presidents], including myself, signed because it was a good way to bring attention and debate to the broader issue."

Other signers include the presidents or chancellors of other NESCAC schools such as Hamilton, Trinity and Tufts, as well as universities as large as Ohio State University and Duke. All testified

SEE "AMETHYST," PAGE 3



FRESHLY HALLOWED HALLS
Molly Curtis '10 helps break in the newly renovated Axinn Center.

Angela Evancie

College stays high in questioned rankings

By Jaime Fuller
NEWS EDITOR

This summer, Middlebury College continued its rise in commercial prominence and academic prestige with its posting on college rankings lists published by *U.S. News and World Report Magazine*, *Princeton Review*, *Forbes Magazine*, and the Sierra Club.

Middlebury is no stranger to the rankings, but this year the college has made some improvement, especially in the Sierra Club's "Ten That Get It" list. Last year Middlebury was #6 on the list, but moved up this fall to #1 due to the college's renewable energy projects and extensive recycling facilities. The Sierra Club website describes

the student body as "outdoorsy intellectuals" and cites Scholar-In-Residence Bill McKibben's environmental journalism fellowship program as a reason for the college's top score of 93. The only fault the country's oldest and largest grassroots environmental organization finds with Middlebury is the administration's lack of transparency regarding current investments.

The Sierra Club ranking also has the distinction of being the only college ranking list to be posted as a news release on the Middlebury College website. Despite being #5 on the *U.S. News and World Report* the last five years, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz re-

SEE PRESIDENT, PAGE 3



Angela Evancie

The "Amethyst Initiative" brought the drinking age debate front and center at Middlebury and across the nation.

this week



Super-delegate
A Burlington teen was a delegate to the DNC in Denver, page 7.



Fries with that?
Faculty reveal the good, bad and ... ugly of their summer jobs, page 12

Potomac Theater
Thespians return triumphantly to the city that never sleeps, page 17





overseas briefing

Olympics showcase a China pulled in two directions

by Brian Fung

BEIJING — The stands are finally empty at the National Stadium. The Water Cube keeps pulsing gently at night, for nobody in particular. The athletes have all gone home, the reporters and photographers back to their day jobs covering golf or baseball. Even the Chinese tourists have vanished. Beijing is alone once more. But never again will it be lonely.

China is a country whose greatest breakthroughs and toughest setbacks have been marked by the arrival of foreigners. Think Mongol imperialism. Or the Opium Wars and the Rape of Nanjing. Ping-pong diplomacy and Richard Nixon. It's clear that despite a reflexive Chinese tendency to view foreigners as reckless meddlers, China's fortunes have historically waxed and waned with the tides of visitors from afar. Fitting, then, that the Middle Kingdom should announce its return to global influence just as all the world's people have gathered in its own backyard.

So, were this year's Summer Olympics a breakthrough for China? Depends on your rubric. Commerce? I'd say so. Gold medals? Absolutely. Prospects for political reform? That's the million-dollar question.

Whether China's celebration of sport represented a true step forward, or simply a feint in that direction, remains to be seen. The Games themselves were a spectacular success, garnering effusive praise. The opening and closing ceremonies were nothing but dazzling, and August was virtually crisis-free. No surprise—such smooth execution was almost guaranteed from the start, thanks to some of the heaviest crowd control this planet has ever seen. With as many as 100,000 official Chinese volunteers laboring day and night for the Games, there were enough to have at least one watching every time you did your laundry, ate breakfast or — I'm not kidding — took a pee. And that's just the volunteers. Then there were the private security guards, the traffic wardens and, of course, the military police in camouflage body armor cradling light assault weapons, all there to make sure we felt welcome.

This insistence on control is characteristic of a government that's hyper-aware of its own image. China's temptation to micromanage the Games — down to instituting cuteness standards for the opening — suggests the country's top leadership might still be unready for the unpredictability of modern capitalism and the international order. Indeed, Westerners tend to think that China should now increase the pace of reform after hosting the Games. By contrast, many Chinese say Beijing 2008 was the prize for coming as far as they have.

It's a strange dichotomy, to be sure, and representative of another historical truth: that China's relationship with the rest of the world has been nothing if not tortuously complicated, filled with painful tales of, alternately, friction and isolation. But I suspect that Beijing need not worry about being marginalized anymore. Just think about how many people stood up in their seats to applaud the opening ceremony. It didn't go over like the rest of Chinese history. This time, China and the world stood as one.

Garza built a "band of brothers"

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

credibly natural around him."

Watroba was not alone in having a meaningful relationship with Garza.

In a letter written to Garza and read by Spears at the funeral service, Ben Brown '11 showed the closeness of his group of friends.

"You were the cornerstone of our fraternity of brothers," wrote Brown. "You taught me that life is about relationships and who you choose to surround yourself with. Your friends and I are closer than ever, a band of brothers if you will. You are truly missed and I love you."

Still, Garza continues to make an impact on his friends. "You taught me so much," wrote Brown, "and continued to even after you left us."

He also had a great sense of humor.

"Nick reliably contributed good laughs for all of us at Middlebury," wrote Wren Huston '11, in a note shared by Spears at the funeral.

Watroba echoed Huston in his comments, which appeared in Spears' address. "Everyone who knows Nick also knows his humor," wrote Watroba. "I have stories of him buying ski goggles off the Internet when we were all going to try skiing, and although they

were only \$30 goggles, he wore them around with the tag still on them, proud and haughty, and the tag dangled and read "1,000 euros" in black sharpie, written in his own handwriting."

Immediately upon matriculating at Middlebury, Garza continued being as active a student as he was at Albuquerque Academy. In high school, Garza captained the debate team and was a nationally known debater, interested in public policy.

At Middlebury, he hosted a weekly radio show on WRMC entitled "W.R.M. Sweet," participated in intramural hockey during the winter and continually engaged his friends in philosophical conversations.

Following the discovery, Nick's mother, Natalie Garza released a statement remembering her son.

"We will miss his thick black hair and easy laughter," she said. "Nothing in life has prepared us for such a loss. We hope to honor

him in the simple and pure way that he lived his life. He was adored, deeply loved, and those who knew him were blessed with an extraordinary man."

We hope to honor ... the simple and pure way that he lived his life. He was adored, deeply loved, and those who knew him were blessed with an extraordinary man.

—Natalie Garza

Spears echoed the idea of finding good, even in times of great loss.

"If there is anything uplifting about grief, it is that the pain of loss can bring joyful memories of the person who is gone," he said.

The loss was the first of three deaths to rattle the College over a difficult summer. Pavlo Levkiv '11 and Professor of History and Russian Studies David Macey also passed away.

Garza is survived by his mother, father and brother.

Levkiv fought against obstacles

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

or recreational, with the same verve, leaving nothing he accomplished to be deemed second-rate.

"He approached all challenges in life with courage, tenacity and self-assurance," wrote President Ronald D. Liebowitz in an e-mail to the Middlebury College community. "He will be greatly missed."

Despite the challenges Levkiv suffered with cerebral palsy, he persevered, and will be remembered as a devoted student and a steadfast friend. As a member of the Class of 2011, he wowed professors with his enthusiasm and

scholarly achievement despite being only a first-year. His favorite subject was Physics, and his dream was to one day become a famous physicist.

Even those who did not know Levkiv per-

He approached all challenges in life with courage, tenacity and self-assurance. He will be greatly missed.

—Ron Liebowitz

sonally will feel his absence from campus.

"Pavlo was brilliant at physics, and modest about it too," Michael Luby '10 wrote on

his blog, mLuby. "On a weekly basis the physics students would be holed up in Bi Hall's fifth floor study room working frantically on a problem set as the deadline approached, and Pavlo would be there, patiently advising

someone on how to approach a particularly difficult problem... I had been looking forward to seeing him in class and around campus next fall. I'll miss him."

Even though Pavlo will no longer charm the classrooms of Middlebury with his intelligence and exuberance, his remarkable story and spirit will linger in the minds of all who knew him.

Levkiv is survived by his parents, Serhiy and Iryna Levkov and his sister Anna.

Macey molded C.V. Starr schools

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

holiday in England and the two subsequently started life together in Brooklyn, N.Y., where Phyllis was from. Later Macey matriculated at Brooklyn College, where he graduated *summa cum laude* and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Macey did his graduate work at Columbia University, where he earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in history. In 1978, the young historian came to Middlebury, where he taught courses in European and Russian history as well as Soviet Studies, at that time a very popular discipline.

Macey was an authority on agrarian re-

ing Market Institutions in Post-Communist Agriculture: Land, Credit, and Assistance". Therefore, Macey made important contributions to the study of Russian agricultural life on either side of Russia's communist period.

Professor of History and Department Chair Don J. Wyatt wrote that "[Macey's] scholarly interests, which focused on the plight of the Russian peasant at the turn of the twentieth century, were always self-consciously and proudly pedestrian. Never satisfied with the status quo, David, for me at least, typified the Marxian maxim that the whole point of scholarly activity is less to interpret the world than it is to change it."

In the classroom, Macey was known as a great facilitator of discussion and as one who often embraced a contrarian point of view. In courses such as "Stalin and Stalinism" and "The New Russian Revolution in Historical Perspective," Macey pushed students to think deeply about Russian history and how the Russian story fit into the greater history of European revolutions (Macey was also trained as a French historian and maintained strong interests in 18th and 19th century France and the Paris Commune). He led class discussions with open ears and a cutting, dry sense of humor that endeared him to genera-

tions of students.

Perhaps Macey's most lasting contributions to the College came in his capacity as the first director of the College's program in International Studies, a post he accepted after he established the College's program in Soviet and Eastern European studies. With his signature brown vest and rugged beard, Macey was the face of Middlebury College around the globe as he worked tirelessly to shape the school's International Studies program. From 1995 to 2006 he was the Director of Off-Campus Study. It was in this capacity that Macey established the current model of the C.V. Starr Middlebury Schools Abroad, adding 23 new sites to the Schools. Most recently, Macey helped to establish Middlebury's first Arabic language school abroad in Alexandria, Egypt. Today the C.V. Starr Middlebury Schools abroad operate programs at 30 sites in 12 countries.

Professor of History Paul Monod was a close friend and colleague of Macey's and writes that Macey's work "as director of Off-Campus study was the crowning achievement of his career...[Macey] raised the profile of OCS to a new level. He was incredibly diligent in making sure that our schools in other parts of the world conformed to the standards that we try to maintain here at Middlebury. All of the schools abroad directors loved him. He had a brilliant success at OCS and made it into one of the strongest aspects of Middlebury College."

David A.J. Macey is survived by his wife Phyllis, his two sons, Peter and Robert, and four grandchildren. A memorial event in Macey's honor will be held at the Robert A. Jones '59 House at 4:30p.m. on September 22.

Never satisfied with the status quo, David typified ... the Marxian maxim that the whole point of scholarly activity is less to interpret the world than it is to change it

—Don J. Wyatt

form in nineteenth-century Russia. "Government and Peasant Reform in Russia, 1861-1906: The Prehistory of the Stolypin Reforms," Macey's 1987 book, based largely on his studies at the Harriman Institute of Columbia University, remains one of the most important studies of pre-Revolutionary Russia. In 2004 Macey co-edited with Middlebury Economics Professor Will Pyle, and Stephen K. Wegren, "Build-

ing Market Institutions in Post-Communist Agriculture: Land, Credit, and Assistance". Therefore, Macey made important contributions to the study of Russian agricultural life on either side of Russia's communist period.

Innovative pair leaves College community

By Lea Calderon-Guthe

STAFF WRITER

Come December, the College will lose two esteemed staff members as they move closer to New York City because of pressing family circumstances. Shirley and Alfredo Ramirez came to Middlebury at the end of 2006 when Shirley was hired following a report from the 2006 Human Relations Committee, which stated a need for a chief diversity officer who worked directly with the president. Shirley has since become the Vice President of the Office for Institutional Planning and Diversity, while Alfredo has established himself as a liaison between the Athletic and Student Life Departments.

When the Ramirezes came to work for the College, they both found functional systems within their respective departments. When they depart in December, they will both leave behind a trail of improvements in those systems.

"I came to Middlebury because I knew it was well-positioned for serious change," Shirley said. "I came to Middlebury also because I knew that it was serious about the work that it wanted to do around diversity, and we have a president who is really bold and not afraid to push the limits of what we should be doing as a college."

Shirley reconfigured her office so that it integrated both planning and institutional research with typical diversity issues, making the structure of the College's diversity work unique.

"The president has moved the responsibility of planning over to this office to make sure that the diversity work and the goals are at the heart rather than at the margins," Shirley said. "[Diversity] is not some special topic—we want to think about it in all facets of what we're doing."

While working to infuse diversity throughout more traditional areas of the

college during her two years at Middlebury, Shirley worked on three things especially: faculty diversity and development, curriculum and assessment and the development of a new academic center at Carr Hall focused on the comparative study of race and ethnicity. The distinctive demands of Shirley's position, including managing the center at Carr Hall, are drawing attention from many potential candidates for her successor. Special Assistant to the President David Donahue, who is heading the committee searching for Shirley's replacement, thinks the many demands will limit the candidate pool.

"I think it will be more difficult to find candidates who have both the planning and the diversity experience," said Donahue, "but I also think experienced administrators who have done work with diversity will be capable of doing planning work, even if they have to do a little bit of learning on the job."

The search for a replacement is still in its early stages, but Donahue hopes to extend an offer of employment by late November. Shirley Ramirez will not be on the selection committee, but she will serve as a resource and an advocate for applicants. Even with advice from Shirley, her replacement will find her's a hard act to follow.

"[Shirley] has enhanced our efforts with diversity on many levels, in particular, at the top," wrote Associate Dean of Institutional Planning & Diversity and Director of International Student & Scholar Services Kathy Foley-Giorgio in an e-mail. "She has empowered members of the College community to be bold and take action. She will leave us in a better place than when she came, and more committed to the ideals that we envisioned when we proposed her position back

in 2006."

Alfredo does not leave without having made his mark, either. He filled a role the athletic department did not realize it had a need for until things ran more smoothly under Alfredo's care. He has begun to implement changes in the intramural sport program that will last after he goes. He called attention to campus issues in athletic department meetings and represented the athletics program in deans' meetings. He also spent time with students serving as one of several staff members

She has empowered members of the college community to be bold and take action

—Kathy Foley Giorgio, on Shirley Ramirez

who traveled with the athletic teams to away games and as the coordinator for many of the Language School sports programs.

"[Alfredo] does things that are really enriching for our department and for students and that I think have great potential," Athletic Director Erin Quinn said. "There is value in

having a physical presence in student life — his office was in McCullough — to be a physical presence, and having him was a luxury."

Together, Shirley and Alfredo greatly impacted policy, structure and community at the College, whether through their work or through their personal interactions with faculty, staff and especially students. Many Middlebury community members wished to publicly express their gratitude and occasionally awe towards the Ramirezes, but *The Middlebury Campus* could not publish them all.

The general sentiments expressed showed a sorrow to see the Ramirezes go, but happiness for them in their new life in Easton, P.A. at Lafayette College, where both will continue their work.

"When we made this decision, we agonized over it because we are leaving Middlebury with heavy hearts," Shirley said. "This is a fabulous place with tremendous energy and magic. We are very blessed that we are able to go to another great college and have our family be together, but it is not easy to leave Middlebury."

"Amethyst" criticized despite modest goals

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that, in their experience as administrators, the current system was failing them and their students. They drew parallels to the prohibition era, and questioned the "highway funds 'incentive'" employed by the federal government to standardize the drinking age.

"Amethyst Initiative" was settled on for a name as a reference to the ancient Greek belief that the purple stone, Amethyst, would prevent intoxication from overreaching the limits of moderation.

Though it avoids endorsing any course of action other than dialogue and examination, the presidential statement, along with the initiative as a whole, has drawn criticism to itself and to signatory colleges, particularly in the always sensitive area of recruiting and admissions.

"It's very clear the 21-year-old drinking age will not be enforced at those [sig-

natory] campuses," said Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) president Laura Dean-Mooney in an interview with the Chicago Tribune. She suggested that parents reconsider sending children to schools whose presidents signed the statement, although the Amethyst Initiative makes no mention of disobedience or refusals to enforce the current drinking age.

The initiative does exist, however, at the intersection of several, sometimes diverging agendas. Its website includes a link to a section of the debate site www.opposingviews.com where Choose Responsibility argues for lowering the drinking age, and MADD is an organization with which they have locked horns in the past. As for the relationship of Amethyst and Choose Responsibility to Middlebury College, an issue raised by McCordell's ties to the institution as well as Liebowitz's signing, there is no official connection, but the question of underage drinking, and that of drinking at large, remains a pressing one for students and administrators.

Liebowitz made it the subject of the Baccalaureate Address to the class of 2008 in May, when he spoke to the relationship of drinking behavior in college to drinking behavior later in life, and to personal responsibility and well-being in general. He also lauded a group of Feb orientation leaders who "encouraged their charges to respect the drinking laws," and offered observations similar to Amethyst Initiative's statement that "a culture of dangerous, clandestine 'binge-drinking' — often conducted off-campus — has developed."

"Recognizing our own inability to counteract, to date, the emergence of this new, self-destructive work hard, play hard culture gives us some guidance on how to be more effective in dealing with this challenge," Liebowitz said, echoing that statement.

The address, however, focused less on the need for the intervention of elected and appointed leaders — the province of Choose Responsibility and the Amethyst Initiative — and more on the responsibility of the college and its students to work within the current system to change habits of alcohol consumption.

For now, the Initiative has not progressed past the stage of accumulating presidents' and chancellors' signatures, but the status of the drinking age remains at the center of Middlebury's and other schools' political landscape.

START-OF-YEAR EVENTS CALENDAR

Student Organization & Campus Activities Fair	Today, Sept. 11, 5-7 p.m.	Voter Lawn
MiddAction Fair	Sept. 16, 6-7 p.m.	Bicentennial Hall Great Hall
Auditions for the Music Department's production of "Gypsy"	Sept. 11 and 12, 4-7 p.m., callbacks Sept. 13, 10-2 p.m.	Paul Mahoney Center for the Arts 221
Auditions for the Musical Players' production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown"	Sept. 12, 3-6:30 p.m., Call-backs Sept. 13, 12-3 p.m.	TBD

College chooses to omit institutional rankings in admissions materials

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

fuses to promote such numerical evaluations as a valid statement of the College's worth. Liebowitz and 18 other liberal arts college presidents published a statement stipulating why the rankings are an unreliable source of information in the college admissions process.

"We commit not to mention U.S. News or similar rankings in any of our new publications," said Liebowitz in a statement on September 9, 2007. "Such lists mislead the public into thinking that the complexities of American higher education can be reduced to one number."

The *Forbes Magazine* "America's Best Colleges" list is a neophyte to the college ranking game, and Middlebury debuted this year as #17 on their list, wedged between the United States Air Force Academy and the University of Chicago. On the website, Dean of Admissions, Bob Claggett explained why prospective

students might choose this private liberal arts college over other similar prestigious institutions.

"Middlebury has avoided having a really defined image attached to it," said Claggett. "Students don't feel that they have to live up to the image of what a 'typical' Middlebury student is. I think that contributes to Middlebury being a happy and healthy place."

Middlebury also made an impressive

Professors Get High Marks, and also made top ten for Best Campus Food, Best Career/Job Placement Services, School Runs Like Butter, Students Study the Most, Best Classroom Experience and Best Quality of Life.

Whether these rankings have any impact on admissions remains yet to be seen, but judging by the Class of 2012, others things remained much more important to their final decision than a grandiose list.

"I can't say I really looked at them," said Emily Blair '12. "My family might have looked at them, people trying to convince me to go here, but not me."

Elliot Yoo '12 admits to looking at the lists in his initial search, but says his personal contacts were a bigger factor in his decision.

"[The lists] partially affected my decision," said Yoo. "I knew someone who went here and that was a bigger impact on my decision, but knowing the ranking helped."

I can't say I really looked at [the rankings]. My family might have looked at them, people trying to convince me to go here, but not me.

Emily Blair '12

showing on the Princeton Review Rankings, making seven of the Best 368 College Ranking Lists, as well as being named a "Best Northeastern College" and a "College With a Conscience." The College was named #1 for

college
shorts

by Jaime Fuller, News Editor

Hurricane Gustav
ravages LSU campus

Although Hurricane Gustav passed quickly out of the American mindset in comparison to its predecessor, Hurricane Katrina, it still had the opportunity to cause destruction all across Louisiana, including the State University.

"It's the worst storm to hit Baton Rouge for the past 40 years," said Astrid Merget, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor.

Many people did not expect the storm to hit as hard as it did, and Louisiana State University (LSU) was not able to fulfill its duty as evacuation site as well as it has during Hurricane Katrina three years ago.

"For Katrina, we were almost exclusively an evacuation site. For this one, we were an evacuation site and a victim of the storm itself," said Chancellor Michael Martin. "It's been sort of a double whammy. We were taking on damage trying to protect others from damage."

The University's Emergency Operations Center estimates that damages could be as high as \$40 million, and the school is exploring every avenue in order to lessen the effects of the storm.

Over 1,300 volunteers helped with relief efforts, and two funds and being set up in the LSU Foundation to aid the student body in the aftermath of the storm.

—The Daily Reveille

College Dems draw
record numbers

The University of Michigan's chapter of College Democrats drew a crowd of over 200 for its first annual meeting on Sunday. The meeting's celebrity guest list, including former Michigan basketball player and Barack Obama supporter Jimmy King and State Senator Gary Peters (D-Bloomfield Twp.).

"The excitement on campus is amazing," said Nathaniel Eli Coats Styer, the University's College Democrats President. "I don't think that we've ever matched this kind of excitement."

Since Sept. 2, the College Democrats have registered 1,741 new voters, more than half the total number of voters the group registered in 2006.

According to Styer over 300 people signed up for the organization's e-mail list the night of the meeting, a paltry number compared to the 900 who signed up over the past week — the most interest he's ever seen during his time at the University.

King used his experience on the court to draw comparisons to this high-action election season.

"We knew that we could change the environment of basketball from our style of play," he said. "That's what you guys can do right now, you guys can change the game right now."

—Michigan Daily

Library uses online
instructional game

Librarians at the University of Florida have created an online game, "Bioactive", to help acclimate students to the library's technological resources. The interactive game gives players the opportunity to learn the ropes of the reserves while saving the University from the deadly Gator virus.

The game took over ten months to create and required the combined manpower of six UF librarians without funding or formal training.

The game has gone through two different versions; the current version is a point-and-click game that uses a Web browser.

Sara Gonzales, a UF librarian and project leader of the game said that the team was working on a generic version of the game for other libraries to use that they hope to present to the American Library Association Conference in June.

—Independent Florida Alligator

Ramaswamy heads for Monterey

By Scott Greene
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Though the College announced the appointment of Frederick C. Dirks Professor of International Economics Sunder Ramaswamy as the next President of the Monterey Institute of International Studies (MIIS) in May, the final countdown for his time at Middlebury officially began on Sept. 8. Ramaswamy, a pillar of the College's present-day strength in the field of international studies, said that there was still work to do during his last term at the College before heading west in December.

"I need to finish all the big research projects I've been involved with," he said. Ramaswamy will also continue to work with the Middlebury-Monterey Integration Task Force, which he has directed for the last two years. "I will be working with who will be replacing me because there is a lot of work to be done in the next two years," he said.

MIIS appointed Ramaswamy, who previously served as dean of faculty development and research, as successor to current President Clara Yu in May after its Board of Trustees unanimously recommended him to the College's board for approval.

"Sunder Ramaswamy is the perfect successor to Clara at this crucial juncture in the relationship between our two institutions," Liebowitz said at the time. "His scholarly background and credentials, his administrative experience at both the graduate and undergraduate levels, and his knowledge of both institutions gives us great confidence that Sunder will build on Clara's successes."

At the time of the appointment, the Monterey Herald reported that a "Vermont man" would be taking the reigns of MIIS when Yu retires. Ramaswamy said that despite his international background, he does not disagree with the reference.

"I have been here for 18 years, a long time," he said, "and it does not seem that long back that I started out teaching. My wife comes from the northeast and my son was born here. Still, it was funny to see that."

Ramaswamy joined the Middlebury faculty in 1990, roughly the same time as his successor as dean of faculty development and research, William H. Rehnquist Professor of American History and Culture Jim Ralph. Both shared an office on the third floor of Monroe Hall.

"We were kindred spirits in that we both taught large numbers of students and worked very hard and enjoyed every moment," he wrote in an e-mail. "Sunder had the credentials which gained the attention of larger universities, but he loved the scale and spirit of

Middlebury and so he stayed here. He liked the fact that if he engaged in the work of the college that he could make it a better place, and he has done exactly that."

From 2003-2005, Ramaswamy was the director of the Madras School of Economics in Chennai, India, one of the premier institutes for graduate education and economics research in India. He has been involved with World Bank and various UN agency projects on different aspects of economic reforms in India. In the past, he also has been associated with projects on agricultural development in Sub-Saharan Africa sponsored by USAID and other agencies. His teaching and other academic work have been supported by grants from the Davis Foundation, the Ford Foundation and the Kel-

logg Foundation.

While he still has work to do before he leaves, Ramaswamy said he is looking forward to the opportunity. Two central responsibilities will be to run the Institute and work with its local community. Third, and perhaps most important, Ramaswamy hopes to facilitate further integration between the two institutions.

"Monterey has to dock with Middlebury because we are heading for integration," he said. "Not just at the undergraduate level, but also language schools and schools abroad because connections are already being made. There will be a lot of natural bridges that will be formed, and understanding how this all fits into the larger picture will certainly help going to the other side."



Andrew Ngeow

"SCIENTIA ET VIRTUS" ... AND NO UNAUTHORIZED AID

The class of 2012 packed Mead Chapel for their Convocation ceremony Sunday, Sept. 7, before signing their names to the honor code. The 580 first-years heard Dean of the Faculty Susan Campbell describe a Middlebury education as "a set of possibilities."

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FOR RATE SHEETS

College support facilitates renovation of Town Hall Theater



Andrew Ngoew

By Grace Close
STAFF WRITER

"It was a great community project to save a historic building," Doug Anderson said, beaming as he looked around his office, proud of Middlebury's most recent accomplishment: the ten-year, five-million dollar renovation and recent July reopening of the Middlebury Town Hall Theater. Anderson is now the theater's Executive Director, as well as a theater professor at Middlebury College and an active community arts advocate.

The site of the new theater was established in the late nineteenth-century and was originally the home of the "Middlebury Opera House," boasting stained-glass windows and a soaring bell tower. While the theater has had a colorful history, ranging from a furniture

store to a movie theater, some of the theater's original elements were lost during its stint as a bar and late night restaurant. These changes

to the building made Anderson realize that the space was in need of rescue. Anderson and a local community group acquired the building in hopes of reestablishing it as a "real community space" with its old flavor and flourish. The theater, however, proved to have "serious structural problems," according to Anderson. After years of absolutely zero maintenance, "it even needed a whole new roof," he said.

"My running joke during the renovation was: You know, they say a slate roof will last one hundred years. It did! But it's been 120 years," Anderson quipped.

While the building renovation did seem daunting, the promise of a community arts center fueled the enthusiasm surrounding the Town Hall Theater. "You do not throw a build-

ing like this away," said Anderson. Anderson appealed to Middlebury College, which proved

to be a "big player" in the funding of this undertaking, thanks to the enthusiasm of President Emeritus John M. McCardell. The sup-

port that the project garnered was staggering, receiving funding from the college, federal and state grants, local citizen donations and community group interest. "We kind of had critical mass here," Anderson said.

Not only does the Town Hall Theater help to preserve a piece of history, it also helps to provide a sanctuary for the performing arts in Middlebury.

Anderson recognizes that "the arts will never pay for themselves," which is why an established space such as the theater is so coveted. The theater has thus proven to be a real performing arts center. As quoted in the *Stages* newsletter, Anderson said of the Town Hall Theater, "I may be biased, but I think this community has built the best little performing arts center in New England."

During the grand re-opening, the theater hosted eight different events in the twelve days, including a stand-up act by Lisa Cart-

wright, the voice of Bart Simpson, a bluegrass band and a Mozart festival.

Kendra Gratton, a Middlebury Community Player who performed in *Chicago* before the renovation was completed still laughs at

I may be biased, but I think the community has built the best little performing arts center in New England.

—Doug Anderson

the memory of one performance in which bats were crawling across the stage.

"Yes, it was really pretty gritty in here," she said. Gratton expressed her gratitude for the theater that has finally given the Players a beautiful (and bat-free) home. "You mean I get my own mirror?" she joked. "Working in a place with dressing rooms—it's amazing." Gratton remembers being overcome with emotion during the grand re-opening of the

SEE TOWN HALL THEATER, PAGE 6

I'm not a drama student, but this is a real theater.

—Phil Ehrlich '11

Greenest Convention in History
18 year old Burlington native Taylor Bates travels to the DNC as Vermont delegate, page 7



"Eat Local, Eat Well, Eat Together"
Middlebury Community Harvest Festival encourages eating local foods, page 6



Local Lowdown
Looking for something to do this week? Perhaps throw an atlatl or even learn Tai Chi, page 6

local lowdown

Performance by The Grift

Friday, Sept. 12, 10 p.m.

Two Brothers Tavern in town.

Atlatl Competition in Addison

Saturday, Sept. 13, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

What's an atlatl?! Come to Chimney Point State Historic Site to witness and participate in this spear throwing competition. This ancient hunting technique is being celebrated as part of the Festival of Nations. Other Native American life and craft demonstrations along with various vendors and plenty of food will also be available.

www.historicvermont.org

Tents of Hope for Darfur

Saturday, Sept. 13, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Come to the weekly Middlebury Farmers' Market and help paint a canvas tent that will go to a rally on The Mall in Washington, D.C. in November. Learn about the genocide in Sudan, participate in the dialogue and sign petitions to help those suffering in Darfur.

Info: Tim Franklin, 758-2227.

Middlebury Tai Chi Demonstration

Monday, Sept. 15, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

Learn the nature of prevention through the lens of Chinese medicine. Come to Ilesley Library in town where Christopher Kiely of the Green Mountain Taiji School and Cloud Hands Oriental Medicine Healing Arts Practitioners of Addison County will present a free demonstration to anyone interested.

Book Signing

Thursday, Sept. 18, 7 p.m.

Sarwar A. Kashmeri, author of "America and Europe After 9/11 and Iraq" will discuss and sign his book and answer questions about U.S. - European business and foreign policy in Brandon at the Briggs.

Carriage Bookstore.
Information: 247-0050

Photo Workshop

Wednesday, Sept. 17, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Free digital photography editing workshop at Ilesley Library where photographer Kristen Hirsch will help you improve your digital photographs using Picasa photo editing software. Bring 10 digital (jpeg) images on a media card to work on and Kristen will show you how to crop, adjust color, contrast, and add fill light fill.

Registration & Information:
388-4095.

Food festival promotes eating locally

By Kaity Potak

LOCAL NEWS EDITOR

Gray skies and rain showers did not stop Middlebury community members from gathering on the Green to celebrate this fall's Harvest Festival on Sept. 6. Featuring everything from homemade ice cream and a harp player, to a whole host of workshops geared toward educating and encouraging local eating, the festival showed community spirit at its finest. The festival's slogan of "Eat Local, Eat Well, Eat Together" perfectly epitomized the essence of this event.

A pot luck lunch kicked off the day, inviting Middlebury citizens to socialize under the tent on the Green and listen to live music from the gazebo. Oblivious to the foreboding weather, children rode tricycles down the hill at alarmingly fast rates, painted colorful banners with which to adorn the Green and enjoyed slice after slice of homemade pie.

"We had forty pies here today. Forty!" event coordinator Kristin Bolton gushed. Such festivities were, however, simply the backdrop for a much larger cause. The combined efforts of the Addison County Localvores, members of the Middlebury Co-op, the Addison County Relocalization Network (ACoRN), and other organizations and in-

This is a way to focus people's attention on the idea of eating locally...to shift their awareness.

—Shari Brown

dividuals are part of an initiative to support eating locally, saving energy, supporting local businesses and encourage self-sufficiency.

Other than the celebrations going on outside, there was a full schedule of workshops taking place in Saint Stephen's on the Green Episcopal Church. Workshops with titles such as "Breaking Ground - Your First Garden," "Harvesting Wild Edibles," and "Eating Locally Throughout the Year" were, as Shari Brown, a founding member of the Eat Local Challenge, said, "a way to focus people's attention on the idea of eating locally, a way to shift



Andrew Ngeow

The Middlebury Co-op helped sponsor the Harvest Festival on the village Green on Saturday.

their awareness." Joanna Colwell, another founder of Middlebury's Eat Local Challenge, supported Brown's explanation by adding, with a huge grin, "we're here so that we can get people rammed up to eat locally!"

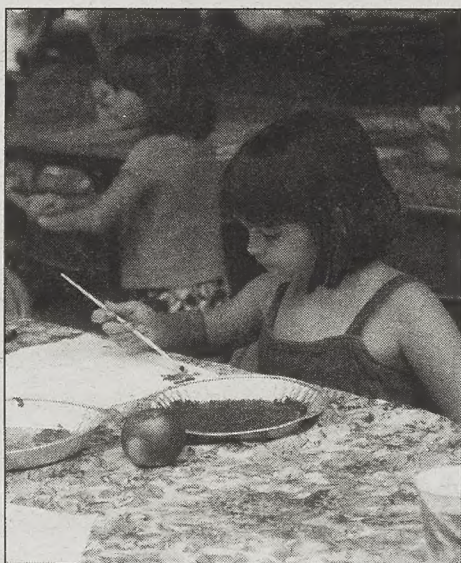
The Eat Local Challenge, which was begun here in Middlebury three years ago, is a well-established project in Vermont and throughout the country that asks those in-

involved to commit to eating locally. Throwing the word "challenge" into the title offers a touch of intimidation but the initiative is much less a set of demanding rules than it is a personal decision to be more aware of what one eats. Those involved set themselves challenges that range from trying to make two meals a day from local products to swearing that 80 percent of their diet will be local (from within 100 miles of home). As both Brown and Colwell attest, the Eat Local Challenge is not about the specifics of making a vow, though.

"Where did we even come up with that 80 percent? Where did that number actually come from?" said Shari Brown.

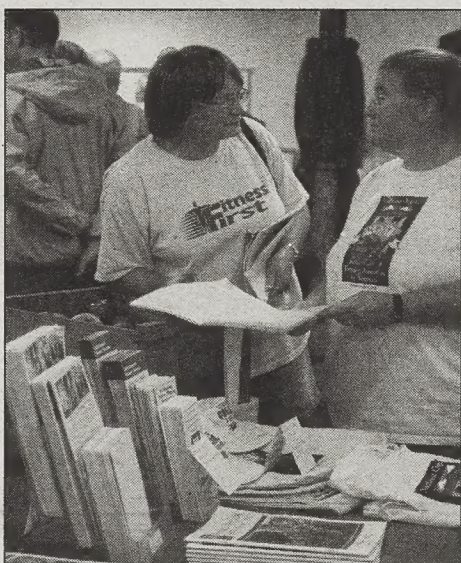
"Well, actually, I think I just made it up. I mean, it seemed reasonable at the time," Joanna Colwell said. Whatever the deciding factor, the Eat Local Challenge, which the Harvest Festival helped to bring to the forefront of everyone's attentions, certainly seems to be gaining ground. In its opening year, the organizers were happy to see 70 people become involved. That number has grown steadily, and continues to do so this year, as information is shared like gossip, pages are added to the sign-up sheets throughout town and pamphlets are picked up like hotcakes. Or perhaps, like pieces of freshly baked pie.

As the afternoon wore on, conversation was suddenly interrupted and attention refocused as kids swarmed toward the big white tent outside to take turns cranking the old-fashioned ice cream maker. The fiddle player on the gazebo offered foot-tapping music that mirrored the excitement, and with the apple barrel looking pretty low, it seemed pretty apparent that despite the rain, the Harvest Festival certainly accomplished its goal and managed to get people "rammed up to eat locally."



Andrew Ngeow

Mini Midd kids enjoyed snacks and painting.



Andrew Ngeow

Workshops educated about local initiatives.



Andrew Ngeow

Banners danced over homemade fruit pies.

Renovations completed on Town Hall Theater

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

theater.

"I was so overwhelmed I burst into tears," she said. Gratton's sentiments are echoed throughout the Middlebury arts community.

The theater has proven to be a true gathering place for Middlebury. "You don't just have to love music and theater to appreciate this space," said Anderson. Middlebury has begun a movement that is encouraging other Vermont towns to restore their own historic town spaces. From Brandon to Bristol, support is growing to restore the "town hall"—the original community space. In the histories of such rural villages, the "town hall" came to represent "democracy the way it was supposed to be, at a real grassroots level," said Ander-

son.

The theater will also act as a catalyst to increase student involvement in downtown Middlebury.

"We're knitting back together the town and the top-of-the-hill," said Anderson. In fact, with McCullough student center now closed, the Town Hall Theater will host many college events including the annual ISO dance performance and other student theater productions. This Winter Term will see the Middlebury College Musical Players' production of "Gypsy," which is certainly a far cry from the basement of the Chateau. Anderson noted that "the distance from Bi-Centennial Hall to the CFA is actually the same from Bi-Hall to the Town Hall Theater."

The summer language schools were the

first Middlebury students to perform in the Town Hall Theater. In his final performance for the French school, Phil Ehrlich '11 was able to appreciate the new space.

"I'm not a drama student," Ehrlich explains, "but this is a true theater. It's the real thing."

Middlebury has seen its renaissance with the addition of the new Town Hall Theater. As Anderson said, "it is reviving and sustaining downtown." After a show at the theater (tickets cost only fifteen dollars), town citizens and college students alike now have the added opportunity to head over to 51 Main for late night dinner and drinks. Who knew that going to "dinner and a show" could be so far off-Broadway as to be right here in Middlebury, Vermont?

Burlington teen braves Denver as DNC delegate

By Peter Baumann
SPORTS EDITOR

While most incoming first-years spend the last two weeks of summer nervously preparing to leave for college, Taylor Bates had other ideas. The 18-year-old Burlington, Vt. native pined to travel to Denver, Colo. as a member of the Vermont delegation to the Democratic National Convention. With only 27 delegates from Vermont, the recent high-school graduate knew the odds were stacked against him. So Bates, who had spent the summer working for an environmental advocacy group, distinguished himself by pledging to offset the carbon emissions from the entire delegation's cross-country travel to Denver. With this ace-in-the-hole, Bates was named the youngest member of the Vermont delegation and rewarded with the experience of a lifetime in Denver.

Part of the reason Bates's platform was so effective was the DNC's oath to be the "Greenest Convention in History." From a concert Sunday night, headlined by Dave Matthews, which featured local and national politicians discussing environmental challenges, to DNC volunteers standing at each trash can in Mile High Stadium reminding patrons to recycle, one of the defining themes of the week was the concerted effort made to promote green living.

One element of this was the Convention's "Green Delegate Challenge," whereby the Convention provided ways for delegates to offset carbon emissions generated by their trip to Colorado. Almost three-quarters of the delegates participated in the program,

but Bates distinguished himself by not only offsetting his own emissions, but those from the rest of his delegation as well.

With Carbon Credits from the Challenge being used to fund alternative energy projects in Colorado, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Illinois, delegates who participated could be comfortable in how their funds were being used. However, there are those who find the entire system hypocritical, and claim Carbon Credits are just a way of outsourcing good deeds.

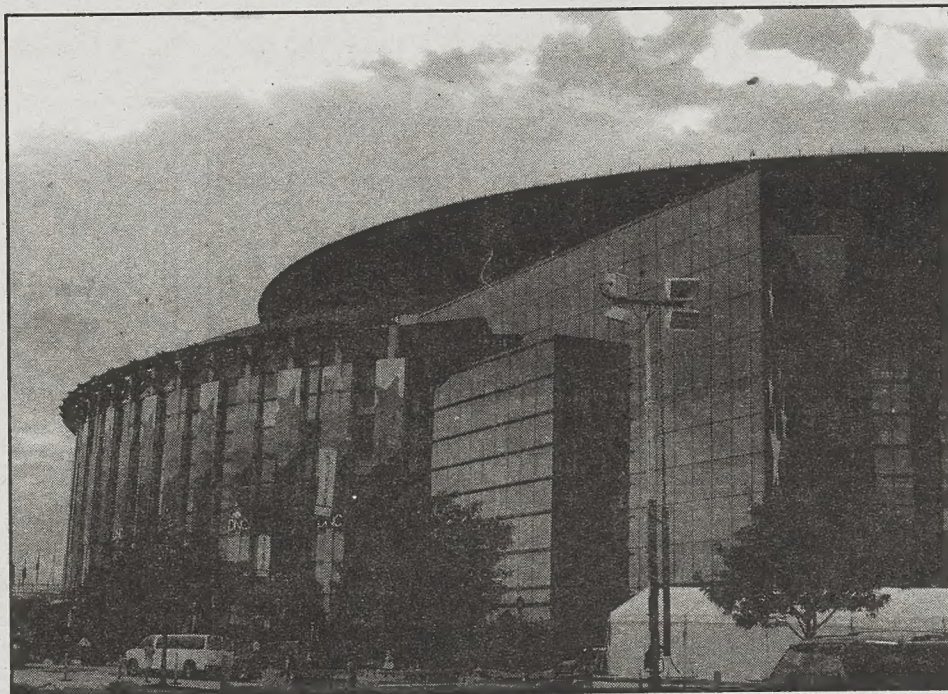
"I'm frankly dismissive of people who question carbon offsets," said Bates when asked about the detractors. "Carbon Credits put the division of labor to work for the environment — I can make money doing whatever I do best, then give it to someone who is good at building wind turbines or solar panels. The planet doesn't care who works, who cuts carbon — the only thing that matters is the end result."

Once in Denver, Bates found himself surprised by the focus of the protests. Recently released numbers show that Denver spent over half of the \$50 million federal security budget on police and police equipment, mainly in an effort to limit and contain what high estimates said could be as many

The planet doesn't care who works — the only thing that matters is the end result.

—Taylor Bates

as 25,000 protestors. The actual number turned out to be much closer to 5,000, and fewer than 200 arrests were made, compared to over 800 during the Republican National Convention in Minnesota. Despite this, Bates



Peter Baumann

Democratic delegates descended on Denver for the "Greenest Convention in History," was still taken aback.

"I know the protests were smaller than anticipated," he said, "but the fact that more people from the far left than the far right were protesting surprised me." In fact, while Pro-Life activists and 'Drill Now' advocates had a presence in the city, it was the grassroots populist organization "Re-Create '68" that caused the most disturbance both prior to and during the Convention.

Once inside the Pepsi Center and Mile High Stadium, Bates and the other Vermont delegates had a prime view, by virtue of their location just off the right side of the daises. With his front-row seat, Bates was justifiably impressed by Senator Obama's acceptance speech, but also noted that "John Kerry's [speech] was well-written and funny." Bates

appreciated the irony involved in using Kerry to attack Senator John McCain on the issue of 'flip-flopping,' but says the former democratic presidential candidate used it to his advantage. The line "John McCain pays hundreds for his shoes, but we have to pay for his flip-flops" was, according to Bates, "hilarious."

When it was all said and done, after a week of policy discussions and grand-scale speeches, Bates's lasting memory took a much more micro-perspective.

"I am walking away with an appreciation of how open our political system is," said Bates when asked what he will most carry with him about the experience. "Anyone can get involved," he promised, and perhaps they can "even go to a major party Convention."

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Editorial

College mourns losses, looks to new faces

The Mead Chapel bells rang in a new academic year Sunday as Middlebury welcomed 580 first-year faces. Convocation, however, also marked the end of a long summer. The deaths of Nicholas Garza '11, Pavlo Levkiv '11, and Professor David Macey all reached the Middlebury community during what was an uncharacteristically sullen and rainy Middlebury summer. Garza and Levkiv, both beloved members of the first-year class, died under tragic circumstances. Veteran faculty member David Macey passed unexpectedly after devoting himself to the College and its students for three decades.

Middlebury also begins this year adjusting to the departures of some of its most cherished faculty members. Shirley and Alfredo Ramirez, who had a profound impact on the College through their efforts in promoting diversity and community development, will be taking posts at Lafayette College. Dean of Faculty Development and Research Sunder Ramaswamy will also be leaving Middlebury's Vermont campus to assume a new role as President of the Monterey Institute of International Studies. The loss of these important faculty members will undoubtedly leave a void in the Middlebury community, and their work on behalf of our small school will be sorely missed.

As the College looks to new faces for leadership and inspiration, we recognize that some change is healthy and that there is opportunity for rebirth and revitalization. We understand that Ramaswamy's move to Monterey will only strengthen the greater Middlebury community. And we are glad to know that Professor James Ralph '82, a longtime Middlebury faculty member, will be assuming Ramaswamy's former position. We also look forward to the contributions of the class of 2012. Largely born in the 1990s, this class not only makes us feel entirely too old, but also represents a symbolic change—the 90s! We look to them and others at Middlebury to breathe new life into this august institution and make their own profound and lasting contributions to the school.

Liebowitz's Amethyst choice a responsible one.

We applaud President Ronald D. Liebowitz's recent decision to join 129 other college presidents and chancellors by signing the Amethyst Initiative. The Amethyst Initiative, launched in July 2008, brings together college administrators in an effort to promote informed and unimpeded debate on the 21 year-old drinking age. Liebowitz's signature demonstrates continuity in Middlebury's support for dialogue on this issue, as Amethyst's founder is College President Emeritus John M. McCardell. Adding Middlebury's name to the list of colleges is a not so tacit assertion that the drinking age is not working—a fact that is increasingly obvious at the College. Furthermore, Liebowitz has helped to promote an important national debate when few of our peer colleges have stepped up. We hope that campus leaders will heed their President's example and begin an earnest and informed dialogue about underage drinking here at Middlebury—pushing students and administrators to craft a policy that balances legal concerns with the realities of a college social environment.

contact the campus

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The Middlebury Campus (USPS 556-060), the student newspaper of Middlebury College, is published by The Middlebury Campus Publications. Publication is every Thursday of the academic year, except during official college vacation periods and final examinations. Editorial and business offices are located in Hepburn Hall Annex, Middlebury College. The Middlebury Campus is produced on Apple Macintosh computers using Adobe InDesign 2.0 and is printed by the Press Republican in N.Y. The advertising deadline for all display and classified advertising is 5 p.m. Friday for the following week's issue. Mailing address: The Middlebury Campus, Drawer 30, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt., 05753. Office phone: (802) 443-5736. Business phone: (802) 443-5737. Please address distribution concerns to the Business Director. First class postage paid at Middlebury, Vt., 05753.

WISHFUL THINKING



"Well, we may not have Proctor terrace, or the panini machine, or the comfy Atwater chairs...but at least this coffee tastes like apple strudel!"

Sam Dakota Miller

notes from the desk:

Tess Russell

Greening the Campus

Here at Middlebury, there is a discrepancy between the treatment of underage alcohol violations and marijuana use by students of all ages that I find to be somewhat out of touch. My intention here is not to advocate drug legalization, so I'm not going to expound on the reasons why marijuana is less damaging to the individual and to society than alcohol, though I personally feel that there is a great deal of validity to those arguments.

Despite what many recent, polemical critiques of the social scene on campus (some of them printed on this very same Opinions page) would have you believe, Middlebury is still, on the whole, a pretty fun place. President Liebowitz' Baccalaureate Address to last spring's graduating seniors, though decidedly ill-received by its audience, was not totally off the mark. For better or worse, we do embrace a "work hard, play hard" philosophy here.

Playing hard, of course, necessitates a certain amount of rule-breaking. The College Standards section of the student handbook maintains that "a balance of individual growth and community health guides the College's approach to ... student alcohol consumption, and the use or possession of regulated drugs." It sounds fair and, for the most part, it is. I would argue that Middlebury's disciplinary measures are, in fact, even more forgiving than those of most other schools — more in the spirit of fostering "individual growth," if you will. Let the record state that I am lauding this mentality and not in any way suggesting that the College adopt a more stringent one.

College policy is very much guided by town, state and federal laws, but universities can exercise some discretion in determining their response to the abuse of those laws. The citation policy is a good example of this — if a first-time-offending underage student were caught by the Town Police with an open container outside of Public Safety's jurisdiction, the consequences would undoubtedly be more severe than the "informal warning" issued under the citation system.

According to the handbook, a first offense for marijuana usage results in an "official reprimand." (If you have not had the misfortune of reading one of these letters, they are harshly worded and clearly intended to suggest that your actions could have resulted in a much more serious penalty.) By comparison, it is not until a third alcohol citation is issued that College disci-

pline becomes a matter of official record. Seeing as one intention of the College is indeed to teach students to "grow" — to make mature decisions — why are they getting multiple chances to do that in one instance of illegality and essentially zero chances in another? And as far as "community health" is concerned, I wonder how many students visit the Health Center each year because they're so high that they are as physically sick and incapable of caring for themselves as compared to students who are really, really drunk.

If the College's concern is that a more lenient attitude towards pot smoking will open the floodgates — that "Pandora can't go back into the box, he only comes out," to quote the benevolent weed dealer Saul Silver brilliantly portrayed by James Franco in this summer's hit stoner comedy *Pineapple Express* — then the administration is even further removed from the workings of campus life than I would imagine. (Suffice it to say that this college is already, ahem, "green" in more ways than one.) To the extent that there are fewer logged records of marijuana violations than underage drinking offenses, it probably has more to do with the relative degrees of visibility of the two activities in question. A rowdy, booze-fueled party in a freshman suite strewn with empties and contraband Beirut tables will undoubtedly attract more attention than a mellow sesh taking place in one of Middlebury's many open fields or, with the aid of smell-reducing fans, even in a dorm.

What I propose is that the Deans settle on a marijuana possession system that mirrors the citation system, so that all illegal offenses are judged by the same standards. (Within reason — obviously, the rare cases in which students are apprehended with "harder" drugs or with quantities of marijuana indicating intent to sell should be dealt with differently.) Because, yes, smoking pot is illegal. But so is underage drinking. You can make your own conclusions about which is the greater problem, but I think we can all accept that neither is out of the ordinary at Middlebury and that both are, to some extent, things that most of us experiment with or, at the very least, encounter during our college careers.

TESS RUSSELL '10 IS A FEATURES EDITOR.
 SHE IS FROM BALTIMORE, MD.

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A preface to lunch: James O'Brien I won't be wearing a suit this summer

In deciding who to vote for in the upcoming election, I try to pay very little attention to what candidates actually say—mainly because it is never even vaguely related to what they do once they get elected. At the same time, I can fill you in on what I have managed to gather from casually watching CNN, MSNBC, and all those other channels that combine to serve as the ESPN and Entertainment Tonight of the political world.

Barack Obama, like most human beings, is not content with the way things are.

Let me first say that I like Barack Obama, mostly because of his name. What I don't like about him is that he's taking a cheap angle by making his campaign slogan, "Change!" It's not fair to McCain. He's supposed to be the antagonist here, but he couldn't possibly make his slogan, "Same." Never in the history of the world have people actually been happy with the way things are, because everybody can think of something that they would like improved. As a result, Obama draws big crowds of people willing to hold up silly blue signs. Half of them are just shrugging, saying, "Yeah, I guess things could be better" in an Eeyore voice. The other half are, as we will touch on later, profoundly drunk.

Nevertheless, all of this change talk puts John McCain in a bit of sticky position. I assume that he

hasn't been overjoyed by the way things—i.e. the economy—are going, but his voting record does indeed show that he stands with President Bush on most issues. So he is playing to his home crowd. He's countered accusations that he's just like Bush by mumbling, "Eh, maybe..." He then elaborates by saying something like, "Things aren't so bad. We're lucky to be Americans!" This type of comment is then followed by applause, hooting, and chants of "Drill! Drill! Drill!"

John McCain insists that he "is not George Bush."

This is true. I have seen pictures of the two of them standing next to each other.

Pundits are talking about Sarah Palin's pregnant daughter.

America shouldn't care about this. We don't care about pregnancies unless they happen to our relatives or Angelina Jolie. But somehow this has become a big issue with the pundits on MSNBC, CNN etc. Why? Mainly because they need something to talk about—other than the fact that they don't want to be called "pundits" anymore because it's a "very annoying" word. The other reason for this being a topic of significance is that Republicans have made the vague concept of *family values* so central to their speeches in years past. Dems smell some hypocrisy. How dare Sarah Palin's daughter get pregnant with-

out being in an exclusive, loving relationship legitimized by a marriage license? Had this same thing happened with Barack Obama's daughter, it would have been cause for a Republican uproar over the destruction of the American family. Considering that Obama's oldest daughter is about eleven years old, such an occurrence would also be disconcerting for other reasons.

Everyone at the party conventions is an alcoholic.

I assume that you have seen the clips of convention-goers at both the DNC and the RNC appearing like they are intoxicated from some combination of oil fumes and the vapor of hope. I am sympathetic to these people because two of my good friends are among them, but it seems clear to me that they are all, in fact, drunks. There's no other possible explanation as to why every single one of them sings along with the terrible music blaring over the loudspeakers, dances like Elaine Benes from Seinfeld between speeches, and spontaneously cheers at the conclusion of otherwise unremarkable sentences. These people, along with us here at Middlebury, are making beer companies rich. These people, along with us here at Middlebury, comprise the voting public. Come November, we will decide our own fate. God help us.

JAMES O'BRIEN '10 IS FROM MEDFIELD, MASS.

heardoncampus

The pen-tailed treeshrew has been found to regularly consume alcoholic nectar from the flower buds of the bertam palm... These shrews, however, don't polish off the bottle and then invite other shrews up into the canopy for some late night.

— Jesse Davidson
in his column "Dr. Jesse, B.A."
Page 13

Dean's List: Dean Atyia Amethyst Initiative sparks bottomless debate

The Amethyst Initiative's website looks like it should be the back cover advertisement of a pop news magazine. It colorfully displays rotating images of diverse groups of young people toasting glasses of wine or champagne flutes. These people look like they are having the time of their lives, un-intoxicated and in control. While it would not have been my first graphic of choice to use when greeting visitors to the website, it does provoke some pretty upsetting comparisons when saddled alongside the reality of drinking behaviors on college campuses.

Launched in July of 2008, the Amethyst Initiative is comprised of chancellors and presidents of universities and colleges across America who promote "informed and unimpeded debate on the 21 year-old drinking age." Like the McCardells before them, the 129 signatories of the Amethyst Initiative's Statement understand that rather than toasting merlot and eating brie, college students prefer shot-gunning Natural Ice and downing Jell-O shooters.

I don't think this behavior is all too upsetting by itself. It's where it leads that promotes a public more comfortable with giving someone the right to vote than the right to consume alcohol. Alcohol in the college atmosphere often means binge drinking; outside the college atmosphere, alcohol in social America is

coupled with the fear of drunk driving, poor behavioral judgment, violent crime, and an overall danger to society.

At the same time, social dynamics exist in which consumption takes on a different shape entirely. Sebastian Paulsson '09.5, an international student from Stockholm comments, "We start drinking earlier, and we made our mistakes at a younger age. I was getting sick from alcohol at age 14. By the time my friends and I were fifteen, our parents had taught us how to drink and we were a lot better at it than you are here. It's all or nothing in the states. Drinking is a competition, and blacking-out is a goal. That's troubling."

Alcohol is a vice, and drinkers are human, whether American, Swedish, or whatever. I don't think anyone will argue that lowering the drinking age will solve the problem. It may contribute to something better; there's an attitude at the heart of the matter that seems to be fostered by a repressive rather than educational approach to consumption. With or without a lower drinking age, the real concern is how to educate so that students are drinking in a way that doesn't harmfully spill over, creating a dangerous environment conducive to long-term problems.

DEAN ATYIA '08.5 IS FROM MEMPHIS, TENN.

CAMP0101: Election 2008		
SYLLABUS	COUNTDOWN	THE HORSE RACE
DATE & TOPIC	DAYS UNTIL THE ELECTION	3 DAY TRACKING POLL AVG
September 11	54	45% OBAMA
September 18		48% MCCAIN
September 25		
October 2		
October 9		
October 23		
October 30		
November 4	POLL DATA FROM REAL CLEAR POLITICS - SEPT. 6-8, 2008	

Party Favorites

thequestion:

If something were to happen to John McCain, would Sarah Palin be ready for the Oval Office?

By Jessie Singleton
CAMPUS COLUMNIST

In November, we must elect a ticket with the qualifications and judgment to be president—the learning curve is steep, the subject is dense, and the American people are tough graders. John McCain is qualified, even if his ideas are misguided; but Sarah Palin, in addition to being out of touch with mainstream America, lacks the domestic and foreign policy experience to lead America through the challenges of poverty, climate change, war, social security, health care, soaring debt, and education. Here's some "straight talk" straight from her stained record: the pistol-packing beauty queen inherited a town with zero debt (Wasilla!) and left it \$22 million in the hole. Since defeating an unpopular incumbent, Governor Palin has become the subject of an ethics investigation by her own party.

But it's the divisive nature of her rigid and extremist beliefs that makes her most unqualified for the job. During both of her "executive" roles, she purged her administrations of people who disagreed with her and constructed an echo chamber staffed by a network of aides and advisors. McCain's pick of Palin was pure politics: she energizes the "guns, God, and gays" base that McCain could not seem to get off their butts and get to work for him. Palin in the White House (even on the ticket) devalues those thousands of brilliant and qualified women and men who fought to put those 18 million cracks in the glass ceiling of patriarchal politics. America doesn't need another gun-toting, anti-choice, evangelical-pandering homophobe. After the last 8 years, our red-blue nation needs someone who America begged to run for president, whose candidacy has inspired more young people than ever before, and whose campaign has united people from every race, gender, religion, class, and education into a single chorus calling for change. That is the sign someone's ready for the Oval Office.

JESSIE SINGLETON '08.5 IS FROM KINGSFORD, TENN. SHE WAS THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE MIDDLEBURY ROOSEVELT INSTITUTION.

By Stefan Claypool
CAMPUS COLUMNIST

Why are liberals, previously riding high on Hopenchange, suddenly quivering in fear? Because Sarah Palin is coming to Washington, and Washington is not ready. And if John McCain was rendered incapable of performing his duties, this young "rough n tumble" reformer is ready to take over in the Oval Office, no matter what her opponents say.

Why? Because this country's greatest leaders are those that possess vision, valor and integrity, three qualities Sarah Palin has in abundance.

Palin entered politics because she believed that there were problems that needed fixing, and that no one else was fixing them. As governor she asserted her independence and her ability to lead by slashing wasteful spending, eliminating government excess (including the famously-auctioned governor's jet) and spearheading the largest private-sector project in the state's history—the construction of the Alaska Gas Pipeline.

Hers is a successful record by any measure, but what distinguishes Palin is how she achieved her goals by standing up to the culture of corruption that plagued her own Republican Party. In Alaska, Ted Stevens and his cronies had been running the show for decades until Sarah Palin came along. She challenged them. She beat them. And then she got things done for the people. She transformed the Alaskan political landscape, and she soon will do the same for the rest of the country.

Over a century ago, another young, rough 'n tumble reformer with two years experience as a governor found himself elected vice president. Less than a year later, Theodore Roosevelt became president when William McKinley was killed. Sarah Palin is a leader in the Roosevelt mold. Hopefully circumstances will not demand such an unexpected ascent, but if they do, her experience, her accomplishments and her character should leave no doubt: Sarah Palin is ready.

STEFAN CLAYPOOL '09 IS FROM BEDOON, WISC. HE IS THE AUTHOR OF MIDDLEBURYREPUBLICAN.COM

OP-ED: Dan Roberts Finding that "Welcome Back" High

I have been back on campus for two days, and already everyone is completely high. It's not from what you would think (though I definitely smelled some strong 'plants' in Gifford last night). The high is a mellow feeling that spreads over the campus like a blanket, intensifying as more students return to Midd by Jeep or jumbo jet. It is a warm, excited friendliness. And it is very infectious.

Everywhere you look, kids seem genuinely happy to be back in school. Sure, for some that may just be a "Tonight at the Mods I'm going to fall all over myself" smile, or others might just be elated to finally leave Mom and Dad's house again. But most of these grins and high-fives reveal an actual joy at the prospect of a new school year. This is probably a surprising emotion for many.

It is certainly a strange feeling to be back on campus, whether you have only been gone for the summer or if it is been a longer absence. Sometimes the summer can seem so absurdly long that by the end of August, the promise of returning to school feels almost surreal. You cannot figure out whether you have been free for so many months that you are itching to get back, or if the prolonged break has completely killed your motivation to work hard at anything, so you are dreading it.

In my case, I haven't set foot on campus since last December because I was abroad. While driving up here (desperately seeking through gaps on the radio dial in search of actual music), I realized that pretty much half of the kids on campus this year would be strangers to me: new first-years, last year's Febs, and most of this year's sophomores. I anticipated feeling like a phantom at my own college.

But then I pulled up, saw familiar faces all over, and remembered the welcome back high. We all know it: You get a big hug from that guy you sort of forgot was a friend of yours last year, or maybe an oddly huge smile from the girl you had that one stats class with and barely know. Everyone seems to want to say "Hi."

The funniest aspect of social psychology at play here is the fact that in many cases, you might get one of these warm greetings

from someone whom you don't even like very much, and you're pretty sure that they are both aware of this and feel the same way. But who cares? It's the first week back, and we're all in the same boat. And that boat just happens to be a gorgeous, lush (it rained like hell this summer) college campus, tucked away in rural Vermont, where no one from home—not Aunt Susan, not Mr. Goldberg from the law firm you interned at, not that waitress you dated for a week in July—can get to you. At Midd we find a true *community*—and I use that word without irony, although I know it's usually seen on fliers for activist groups or e-mails from the Abroad office.

Everything is fresh again. You are moving into a new room (maybe even greeted by some interesting news, like—surprise!—Forest rooms have no lighting!), eating in a new dining hall (Freeman, anyone? No?) and maybe even discovering some new buildings (damn, that Axinn thing is a palace). All around us are people, places and scenery that feel both new and comfortingly familiar. You feel some nostalgia, maybe a little anxiety (if you are a first-year in the massive social melting pot we call Battell), and great anticipation of what's to come this year. It's kind of a sensory overload.

We'll see what the collective student body looks like in six or seven weeks, when papers are looming and summer feels like it happened so long ago. You'll hear pathetic whimpers coming from library cubicles, and a long, drawn-out, "I knooooow, same!" every time someone in the dining hall bitches about all the reading they have to do. You'll see the huddled Eskimo clans of cigarette smokers, who stand in front of the library rubbing their bare arms, and stomp snow off their sneakers before coming back inside. The campus will feel like a different world from the one we eagerly returned to in September.

But for now, it's all smiles. The weather is in that perfect, pre-fall balmy state, students are actually excited about their classes (just a tiny bit, right?) and everything is new again. And so it feels damn good to be back. We'll see how long that lasts.

DAN ROBERTS '09 IS FROM
NEWTON, MASS.

All around us are people, places and scenery that feel both new and comfortingly familiar.

SUMMER'S END



Frankly, Kevin, you are in denial; the summer is over, school has begun, and for the next nine months you will live an austere and monotonous life.

John Birnbaum

Got Opinions?

Send your letters to the editor to:
campus@middlebury.edu

The Middlebury Campus Opinions page is also accepting submissions under 800 words.

www.middleburycampus.com

OP-ED: Leslie Lim An outside look inside the American Psyche

A couple of weeks ago, I found myself at Philadelphia International Airport, wandering through its long halls and perusing its shops, attempting to kill time during a five hour layover between my flight from Vermont to Barcelona. Starting from one of the domestic terminals, I leisurely strolled for fifteen minutes until I reached the international terminal. It was an uneventful fifteen minutes. But what grabbed my attention was the enormous change in scenery. The Chick-Fil-As of the food court and crowded mall-like atmosphere gave way to high ceilings, surrounded by glass and modern art installations, with large, comfortable waiting areas to boot. It was all part of the same airport; even with the schizophrenic change in decor.

A friend once told me that you could tell a lot about a country by its airport bathrooms. Now, the bathrooms I vaguely remember weren't anything of note, but the change that came with the crossover from domestic to international was striking. What kind of image was the airport trying to project? What kind of image was it projecting? It seemed like the domestic side was content to mimic the many domestic terminals nationwide. Stereotypical foodcourt here, stressed families there, discount airlines over there. The international side, on the other hand, seemed eager to impress its worldly visitors, trying to join the big boys club of glass encrusted, luxurious modernity.

It is the same airport, fulfilling different expectations and needs. Going out on a limb perhaps, I wonder if we could extrapolate this observation to America as a whole. Its domestic image, which it projects inwards, is warm, homey, family-oriented, sprinkled with the values of simple living (or at least it tries to be). America's international stance is colder, sterner, one to respect and emulate with a "Don't Mess" attitude. This has been especially true since September 11, as

you can see how much more of a frosty reception America gives to its colleagues. For a country this complex, it might seem natural to have multiple personalities. Defining the typical American is certainly a difficult thing to do.

But I wonder if the many attitudes of America need to be so polarizing? Protective of its own people and fearful of the rest? I think such thinking would be a disservice and disrespectful to domestic America by assuming that it didn't care about life beyond its borders. Sure, there are those who might not want to hear about all the sad stories that seem to flash continuously across our TV screens. But I hope that for every

I wonder if the many attitudes of America need to be so polarizing?

person who switches the TV off, there is somebody who turns the volume up. And as for America's global role and its cool-

er terminals, I'm not criticizing it per se; I just want to make sure they don't throw the baby out with the bathwater. It's one thing to protect the country and another to make all visitors (even students like me) feel like a terrorist. Retreating into a fetal position after being hit, America has predictably been wary and defensive. I'm hopeful that balance is on its way. Its global image might still be a on the hostile side, but its roles as ambassador and humanitarian should not be forgotten either.

Perhaps I'm reading too far into this airport. Perhaps the Chick-Fil-A is just a Chick-Fil-A, and not some symbol of a larger inner conflict in this country's image. But I think this is something to chew on. As an international and an idealist, I'd like to err on the side of hope. After all, these two terminals ARE part of the same airport.

LESLIE LIM '10 IS FROM
THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE.

SUBMIT

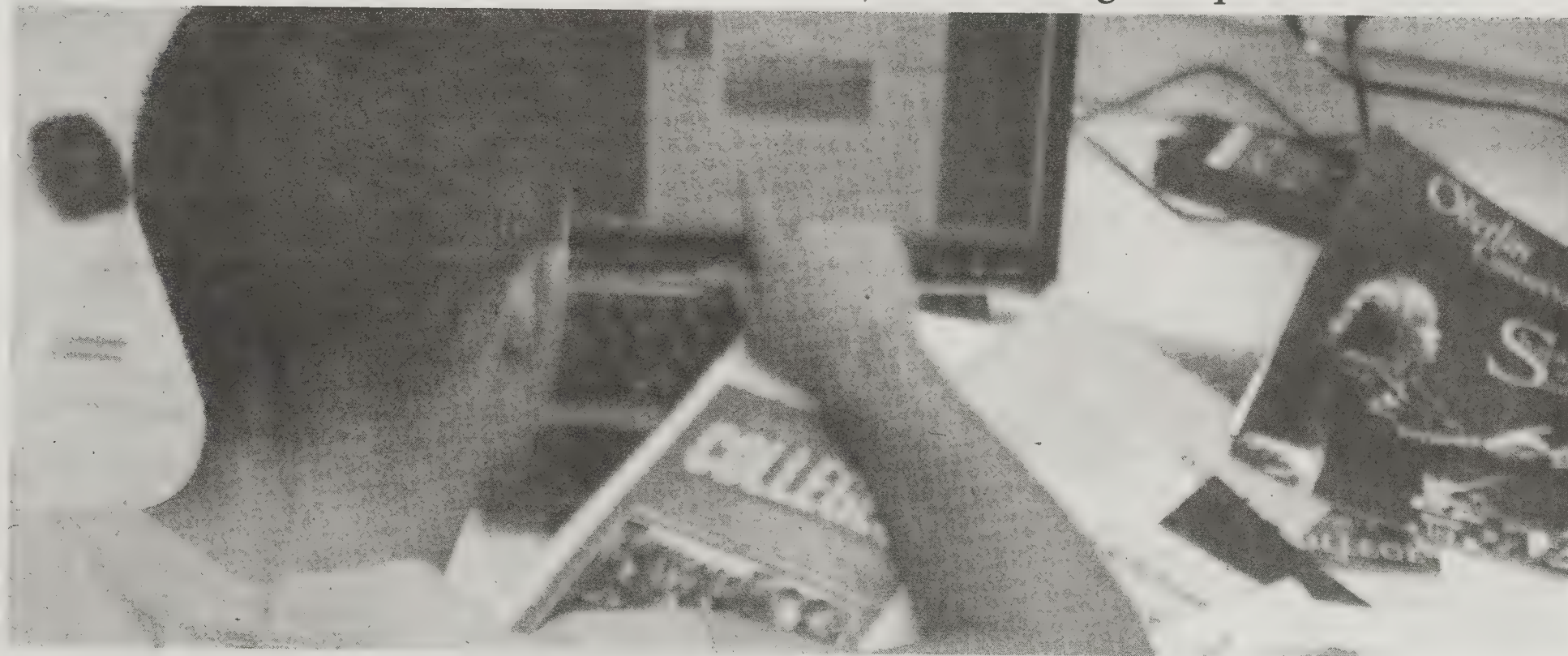
your opinions to:

campus@middlebury.edu

**by no later than 5 p.m.
on Sundays**

Beyond the rankings:

Colleges search for a more meaningful equation



By Tess Russell
FEATURES EDITOR

Each August, millions of Americans anxiously await the release of *U.S. News and World Report's* "America's Best Colleges" for a wide variety of reasons. High school students and their parents look to the rankings in hopes of gaining helpful insight into the trying college process, university administrators simultaneously curse the methodology and prepare to manage the

expanded since then," said Morse, "but the main goal is still to provide information for prospective students and their parents that is not readily available elsewhere. That is why we do the rankings — it's not to produce benchmarking for academics so that colleges can have an opportunity to show that they've succeeded in some way, or to create debate on college campuses."

But the *U.S. News* issue has always created debate, mainly among

"If a school decides to target the ranking variables, assuming that they understand the rankings, that benefits the current students," explained Morse. "If they are able to get a larger portion of alumni to give, that gets fed back into the school budget. If a school targets doing a better job retaining freshmen, graduating more students, having smaller classes, starting more student programs — then I think those things produce a higher quality of education for students and they're the winners in that sense."

Still, as Thacker and other detractors are quick to point out, the "consumer report" mentality that Morse acknowledged seems to suggest that choosing a college is comparable to choosing a car, a dangerous assumption that reduces the output of educational institutions to a single numerical value. To combat this trend, Thacker and the EC drafted a letter in May of 2007 that encourages colleges and universities to make all the raw data that has not been subjected to the *U.S. News* algorithm publicly available, to refrain from using their ranking in promotional materials and to refuse participation in the "peer survey" component of the *U.S. News* rankings.

Morse responded to the influence of the EC with skepticism, given the continued increase in demand for the rankings. (The day the rankings went live this August, the *U.S. News* website received a record 15 million hits.)

"Their aim is to discredit *U.S. News* in some way," said Morse, "but

it's hard to tell whether they're still active or not because they haven't gotten any recent publicity. I don't know how anyone can cite evidence that the boycott of the peer survey has succeeded but maybe I'm missing something."

In fact, the evidence suggests that Thacker's movement is gaining momentum. Since the letter's inception, sixty-seven college presidents have pledged their support. In addition, nineteen liberal arts colleges, including Middlebury, have signed on to a similar agreement put forth by the presidents of Williams and Amherst.

The main difference between the two letters is the refusal to complete the reputational survey of peer institutions. Bob Clagett, Dean of Admissions for the College, attested that boycotting the survey is ineffectual because *U.S. News* can extrapolate the data regardless, but strongly endorsed the College's decision not to discuss the rankings in any media releases. (In fact, he initially declined to be interviewed for this article, but ultimately agreed to "comment on the College's refusal

Photo by Andrew Ngeow '10

tion with a name-brand mentality that ultimately detracts from what should be defining these decisions, which is fit."

Thacker agreed that the "indicators and predictors of good education are easy to know and tough to measure."

He has received hundreds of thousands of dollars from over 30 universities and is currently working to develop a "robust system of information that will guide kids and encourage colleges to compete to be more responsible in terms of the information they provide."

Indeed, the importance of freely available information is the one thing that Morse and Thacker can agree on. *U.S. News* should certainly be credited with standardizing the research process and giving schools a reason to compile data that they largely ignored until the 1980s when the rankings originated. And colleges, including Middlebury, should be lauded for releasing not only the data they provide to *U.S. News*, but also the results of participation in the National Survey of Student Engagement, which panels students in an attempt to compile more meaningful, less dubiously "precise" data than the *U.S. News* rankings.

Still, the rankings will continue to sell, noted Clagett,

whether or not those in education support their methodology, precisely because they are so sensational.

"I don't think the desire for this kind of data is going to decrease," said Clagett. "All we can do is continue to try to educate the public about its limited value."

The rankings have not contributed in any way to educational betterment in America.

— Lloyd Thacker

fallout if their schools do not perform as expected, and nerds of all ages revel in another opportunity to indulge their fetish for lists.

Indeed, in an age where the fate of print journalism hangs perilously in jeopardy, *U.S. News* has found in the "Best Colleges" edition not just an annual bestseller, but what can only be described as a cultural phenomenon. In addition, a franchise which includes an extensive college guide and the offshoots "America's Best Graduate Schools" and, most recently, "America's Best High Schools."

Robert Morse, Director of Data Research for *U.S. News*, has been charged with compiling the college rankings since their third installment in 1987. He explained that the magazine's original goal when it conceived the idea for "America's Best Colleges" was simply to produce a consumer product for readers.

"Obviously the scope has vastly

educators who feel that the rankings attempt to quantify something immeasurable — the quality of learning. Lloyd Thacker, the author of "College Unranked" and the Director of the Education Conservancy (EC), a nonprofit organization committed to reforming the college admissions process, explained the negative impact of the rankings on higher education.

"The rankings have not contributed in any way to educational betterment in America," said Thacker. "They have distorted the way education is perceived and reduced it to a system of variables that are both not reliable and not valid — that is, they don't measure what matters and they aren't accurate."

Morse countered that, while *U.S. News* doesn't actually encourage rank steering, college students themselves are often the beneficiaries of initiatives designed to increase a school's cache.

If a school decides to target the ranking variables...that benefits the current students.

— Robert Morse

to comment.")

"We have chosen not to comment because of the overall concern that all of us have that undue significance is being attached to these rankings," said Clagett. "The rankings strengthen a tendency that is already strong enough to approach the process of college selec-

Science Master

Jesse Davidson '08.5 examines the science behind hangovers, page 13



Middlebury in Malaysia

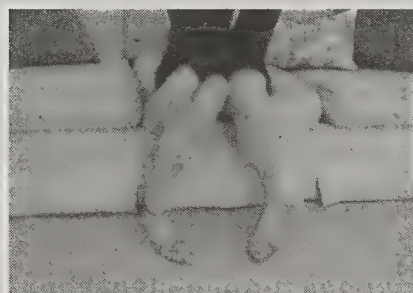
Five students spread medical awareness in the Malaysian jungle, page 13



Email Roundup

Find out what you missed, deleted, or should have seen in your inbox, page 14

The D-spot



by Dina Magaril

Last semester, I started writing The D-Spot because I used to be a sexaholic. I was addicted to sex. I wanted to write about it and read about and watch shows about it. I wanted it in the early morning; I wanted it in the afternoon and right before I went to sleep at night. I wanted to dream about it and wake up to it lying in bed next to me. I wanted it in the presence of a cozy heater during those cold winter nights and later, when the snow melted and the sun came out, I wanted it in the great outdoors. And when I say sex I don't merely mean the actual act of copulation, but also everything surrounding it. The moment when it was clear that it was going to happen, the anticipation, the build up, the trials and tribulations, the sweat and sometimes tears and finally, of course, the climax. I loved talking about it, analyzing it and wondering when I would see it next. I loved hearing about my friends' experiences with it, the good, the bad and the really bad. I waited for it by the phone and snuck it in during finals, senior week and graduation. It was my honeymoon period with sex — the love I felt towards this wonderful act, how perfect it seemed and how necessary and how everything else came second.

But as my last semester approaches and the real world comes pummeling towards me, I've come to realize that there are perhaps more pressing matters I needed to be thinking about than having good sex.

In my column, I explored such topics as meaningful sex (still recommend it), sexcycling (still don't recommend it) and spanking (to each his own). Yet as my time at Middlebury dwindles down to a lousy few months, I've started thinking about what is really important to me and, more significantly, what will remain important to me ten, twenty, fifty years from now. This includes: spending time with family and loved ones, finding a good job that I care about, building friendships that will last well into old age and eating really good food.

In my quest to fulfill these aforementioned goals, I have realized, with some initial grief, that sex might have to take a back seat for a while. I'm growing up and leaving this place and these are my last few months to build a foundation that will provide padding for what will inescapably be a bumpy ride into the future.

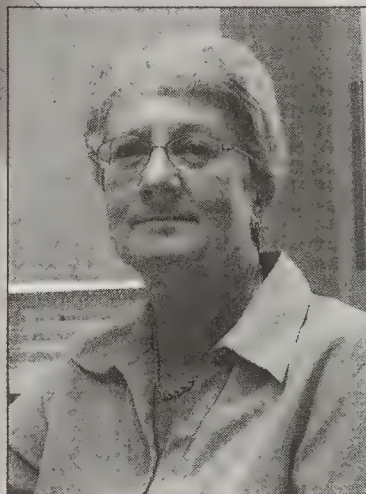
What I'm basically prefacing here is that The D-Spot has broadened its horizons, and will aim to explore a world outside the pleasures of physical intimacy. I hope I won't disappoint those of you who were hoping for mind-blowing tips for the bedroom and otherwise raunchy details of the sex lives of those around me. And I'm not saying that I won't break away every once in a while from what I know will be a hectic schedule of class, thesis writing and job applications to offer up some humble observations about what Middlebury students practice behind closed doors. But I'd like to use this column to talk about other topics that are on my mind as my four years of rigorous academics come to a close. So while I take these last few days of freedom to come to terms with my withdrawal, I hope those of you still living on campus and interacting with other students your age on a daily basis will continue to take advantage of the many opportunities for gratification on this campus — academic, extracurricular and nighttime. Especially nighttime — for the both of us.

Faculty recount summers past

By Rachael Jennings

FEATURES EDITOR

Throughout a seemingly endless winter sandwiched by a painfully shorter warmer season, Middlebury students spend hours upon hours working on schoolwork, attending classes and creating some fun in the utopian Vermont mountains. But come May, everyone is off for a trip with the family, a job at a summer camp, a backpacking trip, waitressing, a research position, summer classes and countless other summer activities. When the College's professors (who also endure the winter and the work of the academic year) pack up for the break, they also find some of their own adventure ...



Angela Evancie

One of Assistant Professor of Education Jonathan Miller-Lane's most memorable summer job experiences was digging ditches for a construction company. Spending a year between high school and college in Yemen where his parents were stationed, he joined a group of workers from Eritrea that had come to Yemen for employment with the aim of sending its wages home to its families living across the Red Sea. As one of few American teenagers, he was able to overcome his inexperience and unfamiliarity and ultimately learn a lot in his position. Though Miller-Lane had practice at splitting firewood when he was young, nothing prepared him for the quickly blistering hands and eight-hour shifts under oppressively dry, hot air. "The heat was a little more intense than in New England," said Miller-Lane. Yet what he remembers most is the "absolute tyranny" of the supervisor, who would fire workers on a whim, and the fear of these workers who could be sent home so abruptly. "At any moment the unpredictable thug who was in charge could transform their lives for the worst," said Miller-Lane. Even with this fear, there was a silent solidarity among the workers and Miller-Lane remembered feeling very connected to the other men as they walked — shovels over their shoulders — toward the dump truck that took them home.



Bill Eichner

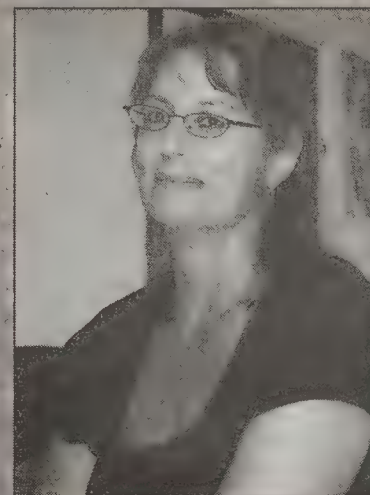
With a father from France and a mother from India, Director of Health and Wellness Education Jyoti Daniere's life has always revolved around food. When she was sixteen, she and her older sister Amrita decided to open a crepe stand in their quaint Vermont hometown. Underneath the staircase of a small antique shop they positioned a homey roadside stand and began their dream of owning a restaurant. Equipped with fine-tuned recipes, flour, eggs, fruit, chicken and the "start-up capital" their supportive father provided, Daniere and her sister were ready for an exciting summer. What the summer brought instead was hours in the heat with the inability to go swimming with friends, sisterly bickering and an insignificant amount of spending money. When her sister was ready to head off for college in the fall, the girls abandoned their restaurant ambitions. Sometimes, when the pair is searching for a good place to eat, they claim that they should leave their jobs and open a French-Indian fusion place. "All we need to think about is that hot, lonely and busy summer many years ago," said Daniere, "and we sigh and sit back down at our desks."

After demonstrating in front of the White House against the war in Vietnam on New Year's Eve, few of Nancy O'Connor's friends suspected that she would take up a job for "the man." O'Connor is now the Chair of the French Department at the College, but when she was 18, she interned for the Defense Department in Washington, D.C. at Buzzard's Point. Though she recalls the job as "not particularly funny, nor interesting, nor crazy," it was her first. To kill time, O'Connor read thousands of pages — *The Grapes of Wrath* and *Magic Mountain*, among other literature — and wrote lengthy letters to her friends. "They didn't give me much to do," commented O'Connor. The downsides? Waking up at 6 a.m. to catch the bus for the long ride and having to admit to her friends that she was working for the government.



Courtesy

Julia Alvarez, writer-in-residence, spent the summer after her junior year at Middlebury working at the snack bar in the Barn at Bread Loaf. Given that she had not asserted herself as a writer yet, she figured that she should experience the next best thing — "hanging out around writers and people who loved writing" during the School of English and the Writer's Conference. What she remembers was not an unusual job experience, but an unusual experience for a somewhat pedestrian job. Amid the routine of making shakes and creative snacks — such as the "Angel on Horseback," which was a hotdog with a wedge of melted cheese in the middle — a strange looking man appeared in the Barn. He requested simply a glass of water. After a few refills, Alvarez's busy co-worker told the stranger that there was a faucet nearby and he could help himself, but Alvarez filled a few more glasses. That night he followed her to her room, insisting that she was his soul mate and asking her to look up at the stars and watch how he could "make them move around." She was scared but pretended to listen, thinking that he would hitchhike out of her life. He disappeared for weeks but always found his way back into the picture — even years later, when Alvarez taught in five different states. "I always thought, phew, that's over," said Alvarez. "But then he'd come back again, follow me around, saying that without each other, we were both doomed." Finally, Alvarez filed a restraining order against the stranger. Though startling, Alvarez noted, "that summer gave me a story to tell like no other job ever has, and for a writer I guess that counts for a lot."



Angela Evancie



Courtesy

The group saw over 200 patients at the major primary and secondary school in Bario, a central Kelabit highlands village. This entailed pulling almost 200 teeth, distributing toothbrushes to encourage better oral hygiene and treating for scabies and lice on the students.

Middlebury students recorded general information and checked vital signs for all patients. Here, Kavookjian '09.5 weighs a young Kelabit baby as part of an initial exam. After the patients had talked to the doctor, the students then filled prescriptions (mostly antibiotics and vitamins).

They also distributed ten village medical kits (which included wound cleaning supplies, cravats and anti-fungal cream) and taught respected village elders how to provide basic care to other villagers.



Hannah Wilson

Dr. Jesse, B.A.

by Jesse Davidson

An article published on July 28 in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (PNAS) revealed the existence of the only other mammal, besides Weybridge House residents, that subsists entirely on organic microbrew. The pen-tailed tree-shrew, an inhabitant of the West Malaysian rainforest, has been found to regularly consume alcoholic nectar from the flower buds of the bertam palm, which can contain ethanol concentrations up to 3.8%. Their binges are beneficial to both themselves and the plant, since the nectar is high in calories and the shrew pollinates the flower buds. These shrews, however, don't polish off the bottle and then invite other shrews up into the canopy for some late night. Their metabolism actually clears alcohol so quickly that they do not get inebriated, nor do they get hangovers.

The reason why humans do get sick and headachy in the morning is manifold. Ethanol gets converted in the liver to acetaldehyde, a toxin, which then gets converted to harmless acetic acid. Alcohol also inhibits the production of a hormone called vasopressin, an effect that causes the body to get rid of water; you thus get dehydrated, sometimes all over your roommate's laundry basket and/or laptop. So it is the toxic effects of acetaldehyde, along with dehydration, that causes nausea and headaches. Dehydration literally causes your brain to lose water volume and slightly shrivel away from the skull, causing pain. The brain itself does not have any feeling, but it is covered by a sheath called the dura mater that "is connected to the skull by pain-sensitive filaments." But those are clearly not the only symptoms of being hungover; I have always wanted to know why, at Sunday morning brunch, my hands shake so bad that I can't fork my delicious Ross omelet into my food-hole.

The tremors, also known as "jazz hands," are a symptom that can be caused in part by a response known as glutamate rebound. Glutamate is a neurotransmitter whose production is inhibited by alcohol. Once you've cleared the alcohol out of your system, your body overcompensates and actually overproduces glutamate, flooding your nerve synapses with this excitatory neurotransmitter. This effect serves to "rebound" the depressive effect that alcohol has on the body, and your nervous system thus becomes overstimulated. To get back to feeling your best, all you have to do is calm your body down with another drink. Then another. Then another. *Then another.*

More significant are the symptoms of alcohol withdrawal after a long period of heavy drinking, say several months. Known as *delirium tremens* (DTs), it is a much more severe illness that can make you disoriented and hallucinate. You then start seeing visions, like pink elephants, or even worse, snakes and spiders all over your body. It is caused by a decrease in production of a different kind of receptor, called GABA receptors, on your nerve cell dendrites over time. GABA, unlike glutamate, serves to inhibit stimulation of your nervous system. So — fewer GABA receptors, more excitement.

Alcohol, when used responsibly, is a lot of fun for some, but obviously comes at a cost if abused regularly. The chemistry of alcohol and its effects gets more complicated and I still have training wheels on when it comes to neuroscience, so this synopsis is rather thin. There are actually many more factors that have been shown to contribute to DTs and hangovers and the research is still accumulating. A lot of this information can be found online. Just remember that alcohol can, at your best and your worst, make you feel like you've got canned heat in your heels or spiders in your pants.

Students lend a hand in Southeast Asia

Five adventurous Midd Kids spread awareness in Malaysia

Five Middlebury students — Michael Chock '10.5, Stephen Heck '09.5, Haik Kavookjian '09.5, Caleigh Waldman '10 and Hannah Wilson '11 — braved the jungle and mosquitoes of rural Malaysia for four weeks this summer running a traveling medical and dentistry clinic and teaching basic first aid in rural Malaysian villages. While other Middlebury students spent their summers in the comfort of a cubicle, these five brought much-needed lessons and treatment to Malaysian villagers halfway around the world from College Street.

Jonathon Bryant, a Wilderness First Responder instructor and sea-

soned expedition leader, organized the trip as a way to teach villagers how to prevent and treat common illnesses themselves. The clinic also provided modern medicine to those who may not see a doctor or dentist regularly.

"For people who do not have medical care readily available, it is amazing what a simple traveling clinic like ours can do for them," said Waldman. "It has been eye-opening to witness the difference in these people's lives from our own in the United States."

— By Scott Greene, Editor-in-Chief

An eight year-old Penan boy smokes a cigarette. The Penans, traditionally a nomadic tribe, have recently been forced to set up semi-permanent settlements due to extensive logging in the jungle.

"Initially the focus of the expedition was supposed to be only the Penan people," said Bryant, "but the trip made me realize that I should broaden my perspective to all inhabitants of the Kelabit Highlands — although they are not in such dire poverty as the Penans, the Kelabits still need help."



Photo by Haik Kavookjian '09.5

MiddView offers fresh perspective

By Roz Vara
STAFF WRITER

For more than 20 years incoming first-year students at the College had the opportunity to attend Middlebury Outdoor Orientation (fondly known as MOO), a unique pre-orientation program during which students took part in three days of hiking, biking, canoeing or climbing around Vermont. This fall marked the rebirth of MOO as members of the class of 2012 took part in the debut of the new and improved MOO: Middlebury Volunteer Initiatives, Explorations and Wilderness (MiddView).

"It's great to see the way the program has grown over the years to include more and more students doing so many different things out in the community," said student organizer Nate Randall '08. "When I was a first-year, I missed out on the experience because the groups filled up so quickly and there were fewer to choose from."

Not this year. MOO trips in the past had only accepted a limited number of students, but this time around nearly 400 first-years split up into 51 groups took part in the pre-orientation activities.

Jen Katz '09 co-led a new MiddView trip titled "Architecture and the Environment." Her group stayed at the Yestermorrow Design Build School in Warren, Vt., where students had the opportunity to "see a bunch of local

houses with really unique, eclectic and sustainable designs."

Katz, who participated in MOO as a freshman, thought it was necessary that the College adopt a new orientation program that would attract not only students who are interested in the outdoors but those who express other interests, like the local music scene, meditation or green design.

Maggie Smith '09, who led a Stark level backpacking trip, also believes the new MiddView provides first-years with the unique opportunity to familiarize themselves with upperclassmen and with the College in general, prior to the start of classes.

"I think it's an awesome opportunity for any freshman to have that smooth transition into their first few weeks of college by getting to know a small group of peers," said Smith.

Smith also noted that first-years can benefit from "receiving advice from and becoming friends with upperclassmen," as well as by "becoming familiar with their rich surroundings here in Vermont, whether that be hiking in the Greens or over in the 'Dacks, checking out the local music scene up in Burlington or volunteering with little kids in a local elementary school."

Katz believes that her MOO experience was integral in helping her settle into her first year at Middlebury.

"I was a MOO'er my first year and loved the experience," said Katz. Although the peo-

ple you meet on your MOO or MiddView trip might not be your BFFs it definitely eases the orientation process to have a few new friends to call to meet for dinner or to see and say hi to."

Brittany Perfetti '12 took part in a MiddView trip that studied meditation and the practices of Shambhala Buddhist tradition. While she was a bit hesitant at first, Perfetti quickly made connections with her classmates.

"I truly bonded with my group of about 20," said Perfetti. "We had many deep conversations. As a result of meditating with each other we were very willing to share ourselves with each other and form a unique experience together."

And as for the leadership? After a summer of hard work, the MiddView was a success. Over 120 upperclassmen participated in the event. Indeed, for student organizer Tamara Hilmes '10, the final slideshow really hit home.

"I knew that every late night spent working furiously in the MiddView office, every jammed paper that I had to manually tear out of the printer, and every twinge of carpal tunnel that crept up through my wrist due to too much typing this summer was absolutely and completely, 100% worth it," she said.



Photos by Maeve Whelan-Wuest



the ethicist

by Amanda Greene

Going back to school is intoxicating. Moving in involves a rediscovery of the dining hall, highly anticipated living arrangements and new classes. Back-to-school time is as exciting as it was when the best thing about September was a brand new box of markers and shiny notebooks. Of course, going back to school necessitates the purchase of copious books. Knowledge, it seems, comes at a price.

In August my friend e-mailed a professor asking for the book list for a class he is enrolled in this fall. The professor responded and attached the book list along with his opinion that the student should purchase texts from the College Bookstore because books are ordered based on the probable enrollment in a class. He suggested that students shopping elsewhere should inform the bookstore that they would not be buying their texts from Middlebury. Is it ethical for professors to chide students for not purchasing their texts from the College?

Professors are free to favor the bookstore over www.amazon.com. They should not, however, suggest that students are disloyal to the College because they desire cheaper textbooks. If prices were equal, I'm sure that all students would shop at the College store instead of turning to outside vendors. Middlebury students want to shop locally. Those who frequent the bookstore are paying for the convenience of one-stop shopping. My friend's situation is analogous to the consumer who shops at Home Depot instead of the local paint store. The consumer is not a detrimental community member, but rather an individual who is (unfortunately and inevitably) subjected to economic considerations. Ultimately, students should not be encouraged or expected to spend more money than is necessary.

And now for this week's question:

Q: I returned from abroad and have a new mailbox number. The box's previous owner, Max, graduated last spring. Max has a subscription to the Economist and hasn't updated his address. Recently, a letter arrived and the envelope mentioned that Max's subscription would be automatically renewed unless Max informed the magazine otherwise. I don't have Max's contact information. Am I obligated to seek him out so that he doesn't get charged for a periodical that he isn't receiving?

— Rattled-by-Renewal

A: This situation centers more on what is polite rather than what is obligatory. If you received someone's mail from the mailman you would place it back in your box to be re-delivered. It's true that the Middlebury Mail Center is not the USPS, but this difference does not mean that all propriety should be abandoned. You don't have to send a private investigator out after Max, but it would be appropriate for you try to obtain Max's e-mail address and contact him electronically. Most likely, Max isn't aware that his subscription is up for renewal.

Want to consult the ethicist? Send submissions to amgreene@middlebury.edu.

Reawakening the spirit of Frost

Writer-in-residence position will honor beloved poet

By Aylie Baker
FEATURES EDITOR

Robert Frost's cabin is going to have a new resident.

In the Breadloaf Inn, he regales visitors from his frame above the mantel. On weekends, Fire and Ice becomes the local haunt for college students and towns people alike. Indeed, in a town which was once the summer stomping ground of acclaimed poet Robert Frost, Middlebury's announcement of the Robert Frost Writer-in-residence seems no big surprise.

The new position, to be filled in 2009, comes on the heels of the vandalism of Frost's cabin in Ripton, Vt. last winter — a case which shocked locals and drew international press attention. The cabin, which is located on the property of Frost's Homer Noble Farmhouse and is now designated a National Historic Landmark, was Frost's summer home from 1939 until he died in 1963. It was damaged last December by a group of local high school students who had selected the cabin for a party.

As part of their sentencing for the vandalism of the cabin, the 28 offenders were required to take part in one of two classes taught by Professor of English and Creative Writing Jay Parini in a May workshop.

"I'm not under any illusion that this will transform their lives," remarked Parini prior to the course, "but I do have a particularly strong faith in the power of poetry to transform minds."

When Parini led a workshop for the students this past spring, he referenced one of Frost's most famous poems, *The Road Not Taken*. The first stanza brings readers deep into a yellow wood, where a fork arises in the path and the traveler is forced to choose between the two. To extend the metaphor, Parini insists that many high school students are at a point in their lives where they too find themselves in the woods. It is important not to dwell on

the past, but rather to abandon any tendencies towards myopia for a more positive outlook towards the future.

"I agree with Robert Frost — poetry can be restorative," said Parini. The workshop was a chance for the students to reflect on their lives. "I think poetry clarifies experience," said Parini, who loosely defined poetry as "a language adequate to our experience."

While the vandalism certainly contributed to the establishment of the fund, talk of adding a position for a poet was long in the works, explained Parini, who is also a Frost biographer. In its most basic function, the fellow would act as a caretaker of the property, preventing any future intrusions. But the fellow would also serve as a living presence in the house, said Parini, helping to reinvigorate that very feel of Frost.

"Frost is the presiding genius of the area," expressed Parini, quickly adding, "I mean that in the Latin sense of the word — he is the presiding spirit in these parts, in all of the North Country."

While he was undoubtedly "the dominant voice for Vermont ... he was also an immensely gifted naturalist." A true field guide to the region, Frost's poems contain references to various landmarks as

well as local flora and fauna.

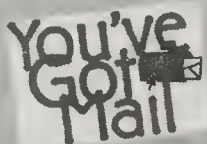
Given Frost's legacy, the post has generated a lot of excitement.

"I think it will be a tremendous addition to the Creative Writing department," said Parini.

The selection committee is currently looking for a poet — preferably someone only just embarking on his or her literary career who will act as the cabin's caretaker and will teach classes at the Breadloaf campus. But most importantly, in a place that once inspired Frost, the hope is to inspire creativity in generations of future poets, young and old.



Courtesy



Email Roundup: Premier Edition

By Tess Russell
FEATURES EDITOR

Living in the Information Age certainly has its benefits (see handheld GPS), but one of the major drawbacks is the deluge of unnecessary information with which we are constantly inundated. The Middlebury community is no exception — seemingly every College office and student organization can get its hands on the "All Students" tag, the result being that the rest of us have neither the time nor the patience to sort through everything in our inboxes. Unfortunately, we often miss out on important emails buried under the minutiae of virtually undetectable administrative changes and thrilling up-to-the-minute updates on campus paving. In *The Campus'* new Email Roundup feature, we hope to provide the busy Midd-kid with a brief overview of the week's communications, be they relevant, tedious or — in some cases — slightly absurd.

Subject: Fall Dining Lineup

The bulk of this summer's mailings involved the upcoming construction projects for the 2008-2009 academic year. The main reshuffling centers on the close of Proctor Dining Hall, which will be offset by an extension of the FIC from the host of Language Tables to a full-service dining facility. Which will in turn push the Theatre Department into Lower Forest and ... honestly, who cares about the rest? The biggest inconvenience will be spending the first three weeks determining the second-choice dining halls of all our Proctor crushes.

Subjects: FYI about junk mail and Mail Center move

Mail Center Supervisor David LaRose advised us to "stay vigilant" against junk mail with a handy five-pronged plan. Basically, we can opt out of most spam at the following URLs — www.dmchoice.org, www.optoutprescreen.com and www.catalogchoice.org. Now, if only there were a registry designed to remove us from the Mail Center's list. (We kid, we kid.) Given the severely limited package space in the College's classy new doublewide "mailer" (that's "mail trailer" in layman's terms), we'll be wanting to stay on Mr. LaRose's good side.

Subject: Live Bookstore Line Wait Cam

The Bookstore recently unveiled a new live streaming Line Wait camera, available on both the store's website and on its Facebook "Fan" page, that is intended to make the hectic process of buying school supplies a little bit smoother for all of us. While the new measure of convenience is much appreciated, those hoping for a thrilling feed will be disappointed — the lens seems to stay focused at all times on a typed sign indicating the length of the line. Guess our campus' aspiring reality stars will have to wait a little longer for their big breaks.

winners&losers

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture?
The Campus gives its weekly report.

Starr Residents

Gorgeous views of the Axx from three sides — what's not to like?

Hepburn Residents

Proctor to the left of me, McCullough to the right. Here I am — SIM.

Federer

Roger's closing in on Pistol Pete's 14 Grand Slam titles. Who said 13 was unlucky?

Nadal

Capris may cut it in England and France, but this is the U.S. of A.

The Mail Center

Party at the MODS!!

Luddites

If you're still using snail mail, now might be a good time to make the shift.

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Bullets over off-Broadway

Potomac Theatre Project's second summer in the Big Apple.

written by Grace Duggan

Photography by Stan Barouh



On July 26th the curtain went down the last time for yet another season of the Potomac Theatre Project (PTP), Middlebury College's collaborative summer theatre program that gives undergraduates an opportunity to work with professional actors. Originally based on Maryland and Washington, D.C., PTP was founded in 1987 by Professor of Theatre Richard Romagnoli, Professor of Theatre and Women's and Gender Studies Cheryl Faraone and Jim Petosa, Director of the School of Theatre at Boston University. This was PTP's second summer in New York City, one that marked a continuation of a powerful collaboration unlike any other in the United States.

This season of PTP included three shows: Howard Barker's "Scenes From an Execution," Sarah Kane's "Crave" and Neal Bell's "Somewhere in the Pacific." Romagnoli directed "Scenes From an Execution," the opening production for the summer at Atlantic Theatre Company's Stage 2. Set in 16th-century Venice, "Scenes From an Execution" focuses on Galactia (played by Tony-award nominated actor Jan Maxwell), an independent and headstrong painter commissioned to create a work commemorating the Battle of Lepanto. Conflict arises when Galactia's ideas about how to use art to depict war differ from those around her, including the Doge of Venice played Visiting Assistant Professor in Theatre Alex Draper '88.

The production also included Rachel Ann Cole '08, Allison Corke '08, Will Damron '09, Lucy Faust '09, Justine Katzenbach '08.5, Willie Orbison '08 and Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki '08.

"Crave," directed by Faraone, marks a drastic change in content compared to Barker's work. This experimental piece, one of the last written by Kane before her suicide in 1999, tracks four disjointed characters (Adam Ludwig, Rishabh Kashyap '08, Stephanie Strohm '08 and Stephanie Janssen) struggling through their respective troubled lives. Himali Soin '08 participated as Faraone's Assistant Director and dramaturg.

PTP closed out the season with "Somewhere in the Pacific," directed by Petosa. Set on a navy ship at the end of World War II, "Somewhere in the Pacific" focuses on a captain dealing with his son's wartime death as well as on his crew's running current of unease. Both Alec Strum '08 and MacLeod Andrews '07.5 participated in the production.

Overall, the works received strong, positive reviews this season, with a number of critics commenting on the interesting choice of plays. Attentive news sources included *The New York Times*, *Time Out NY*, *Retrovision Media* and *The Village Voice*.

A new change made to the program this year included spending the first two weeks of the three-week rehearsal process in Middlebury instead of New York City.

"This is something we have wished to do for a long time," said Faraone. "It immeasurably helps in the creation of an ensemble... The company and the shows were able to develop much more rapidly as a result of the Middlebury residency."

Speaking about the Potomac Theatre Project as a whole, Faraone was quick to emphasize just how valuable the opportunity can be for undergraduate theatre majors at the college.

"The partnership bridges the gap between the academic and professional worlds," said Faraone. "It invigorates the more seasoned company members and it has created a theatrical model very much like European ensembles. It allows Middlebury to justifiably articulate to the world at large a deep commitment to arts in the liberal arts... We look forward to increased faculty-staff involvement and to a greater profile in the community."

Katzenbach echoed Faraone when talking about her first summer with PTP. "I think that PTP certainly provided me with some answers to questions that I had about the field and my hopes for involvement with it after college," she said. "I can't stress enough how grateful I am to PTP for helping me obtain this type of experiential knowledge before graduation."

editors' picks

12

**Winterstein/
Zaretsky Duo**
CFA Concert Hall
8 p.m.

Friday night marks the first of three performances by pianist Inessa Zaretsky and violinist Katherine Winterstein as they perform all ten of Beethoven's violin sonatas over the course of the weekend. Saturday's program takes place at 8 p.m. and Sunday's at 3 p.m. All three concerts are free to the public.

13

Michael Clayton
Dana Auditorium
3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Academy-Award winning law firm thriller, "Michael Clayton" is sure to get your adrenaline as well as your mind racing. Featuring a critically-acclaimed performance by George Clooney, this film is a must-see from 2007.

13

**Anais Mitchell
& Rachel Ries**
Higher Ground
8:30 p.m.

Middlebury favorite Anais Mitchell '04 comes to Higher Ground this weekend with classically-trained singer Rachel Ries. Best known for her elaborate storytelling set to a folk vibe, Mitchell plays as poet and performer. Doors open at 8 p.m.

19

**Robbins
Battell**
Axinn Center
7:30 p.m.

Lecture given by William Hosley '77. Battell was a model of civic leadership whose faith and vision expressed itself in prolific philanthropies, particularly in Norfolk, Middlebury and New Haven, communities he influenced profoundly.



Spotlight on... Peter Hamlin '73

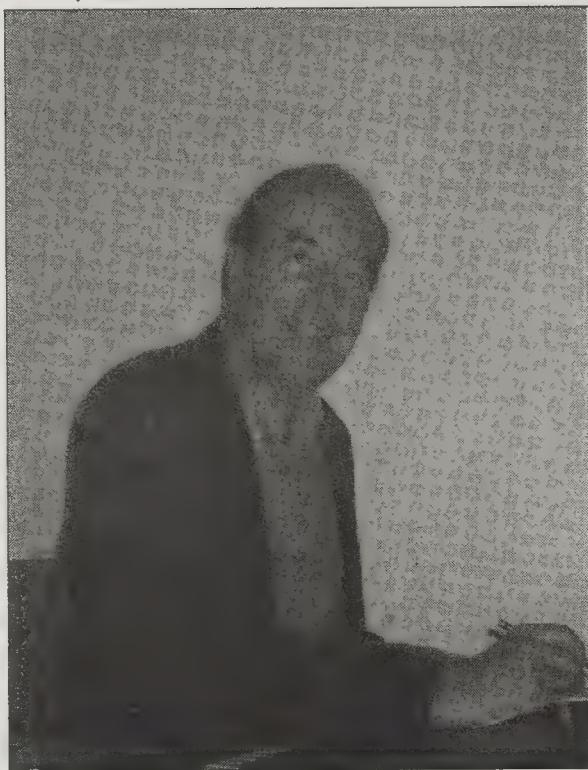
The Middlebury Campus spoke with Associate Professor of Music Peter Hamlin '73 to learn more about his creative work outside of the classroom.

The Middlebury Campus: What have you been working on recently? Peter Hamlin: I just finished a set of three songs for a singer in Minnesota named Carol Eikum. They are settings of songs about baseball. Carol is planning to make a CD that has a baseball theme, so she has been commissioning pieces for that. I wrote a piece for flute and video game controller (the flute plays into a computer and the game controller controls how the flute sounds are processed). The piece is called "Grand Theft Flauto," and was written for Su Tan, Middlebury's composition professor. She's on leave this year, and will perform the piece on a tour that includes a performance at Middlebury this fall. I spent a week in Iowa making an electronic music CD with some old musical friends. Together we have a live electronic music improv band called Data Stream. We rented a cabin in the woods, hauled in a bunch of recording equipment and computers, and spent a bunch of time recording.

MC: Your music is accessible to inexperienced listeners, and yet you maintain a level of sophistication that makes it art music, as opposed to pop music. Can you explain how you balance so-called "high" and "low" art forms? PH: I think the distinction between "high" and "low" art is somewhat artificial. Most "great art" (a Beethoven symphony, for example) mixes high ideals with a sort of earthiness and understanding of things that are most important to ordinary people. Many popular songs connect easily with a popular audience, but when you study them you realize the most enduring ones have the same kinds of artistic qualities as admired "art songs." When I write, I'm thinking more about creating a piece that works than about whether it will have popu-

lar appeal or be considered an "art" object.

MC: Music students can attest to Su Lian Tan's strong personality, and "Grand Theft Flauto" sounds like



a nice match. How much can a performer affect or inspire your compositions? PH: Su is a good friend, an inspiring person, and really fine performer. When I write a piece for someone, I imagine them playing it, and that definitely helps me give the piece a certain personality. I almost never write a piece in a vacuum, I write for specific performers, and I have those people in my imagination while I write. This piece has a lot of energy in it, and when I heard the first rehearsal I thought it really suited Su's talents and personality.

MC: Who or what else influences your compositions? PH: My doctoral studies were with Samuel Adler and Joseph Schwantner. I've been greatly influenced by Sam's remarkable musical craft and his insights into what makes music

work. Joe's music is filled with sonic invention, so I've been influenced by him in terms of finding imaginative orchestrations and textures. I was greatly inspired by my music teacher at Middlebury when I was an undergraduate, George Todd. I think George understands the creative process better than anyone else I know. I love a lot of music, but have been particularly fascinated by Harry Partch - I played in an ensemble devoted to his music just after graduating from Middlebury. I also find a lot of inspiration from colleagues in other fields. I've written settings of poetry by Jay Parini. I wrote a piece that was inspired by Bill McKibben's book "The End of Nature." I took a couple of math courses with Mike Olinick when I was a student at Middlebury, and have often since thought about mathematical ideas for pieces. I love being outside and often write pieces that reflect that. I wrote a piece last winter called "13 Kinds of Snow" that was written while I was enjoying many snowboarding and cross-country ski excursions.

MC: How do you manage your creative projects with your teaching schedule?

PH: I do a lot of composing in the summer and during breaks. I usually have ongoing projects through the school year but try to go light on deadlines during the school year. I really like teaching, and like to have a lot of time for it. But there's usually some time for composing in the schedule. It usually works out if I schedule the deadlines during a break so I can have time for the final blitz!

MC: How is 2009 shaping up for you?

PH: I'm still thinking about composition projects. I am not sure what will be next on the list. I just mailed off the baseball songs last week, so right now I'm getting ready for classes and will figure out what to write next when things settle down. I have two fun classes coming up - Music Theory II and a First-Year Seminar Songwriting Workshop - so those are on the front burner right now.

— Andrew Throdahl, Arts Editor



for the record by Melissa Marshall

A fan from Córdoba, a lamp from Egypt, a wine bottle from France, a scarf from Ecuador, a rug from Sweden — while first-years scramble to assemble rooms as well-rounded as their applications, mine glows as diverse and glossy as a Middlebury pamphlet. Unfortunately, just as I do not have memories of smiling interracial groups lounging in the perpetual sunshine, I also have no memories of these exotic locales — minus my carpet hunt in a Conshohocken Ikea. No, I am a stay behind, a senior who did not go abroad. Though privy to jealousy-inspiring interior designings, stay behinds are also subjected to epicly-portioned narratives of hypothermia in Edinburgh and street-sign swiping shenanigans in Alexandria while my most interesting tale involves the discovery of an abandoned table on Battell Beach. And since one's room is such a reflection of one's self, I figured that my music collection should play vicariously and give the impression of worldliness as well. I mean, my iPod would keep me company in lieu of a collected boy on walks back to Starr on Saturday nights so I am sure that it is up to the task of increasing my pretension level. So, whether you are prepping to blow off the bubble for a year or would prefer confusion to the inanity of English lyrics, pin these international artists to your playlists.

Ever since reading "The Unbearable Lightness of Being" and the curb stomping of the dollar by the euro, I have wanted to visit Prague. But instead of paying \$721 for a ticket, I can be transported to the Czech Republic for \$10.99 with the alt-art quintet Miou Miou. Framed around the girlish, barely-there vocals of Karolina Dyrtrtova, the Prague-based promenade poppers released their first album in the U.S. on April 29th. While she calls Prague home, Dyrtrtova's laces the band's sunny arrangements with French lyrics — the incomprehensibility of the music for most Americans as well as Czechs adding an ethereal quality to the already light *La La Grande Finale*. While occasionally Stereolab-like in their stylings, Miou Miou interweaves inventiveness through their impressive roll call of instrumentation. From the driving force of clapping in "A Lete de la Saint Martin 68" to the bongos in "Dans Le Miroir de Tes Yeux" to the sublime synthesizers in "Le Petite Punk," this freshman effort shines clean and gauzy while still straddling the prog-rock divide.

Navigating the maze of cardboard laden SUVs on Saturday, I was transported across the pond as the bass line of "Violet Hill" seemed the common conversation between vehicles. However, the Anglo-adult contemporary rock of Coldplay's newest album was heavily influenced by the Mali based band, Tinariwen. Formed in 1982 in a camp of Tuareg rebels, the quartet's French and Tamashek lyrics serve societal change and politically charged messages that translate equally as well for afternoon contemplation as they do for social gatherings. From the reflective and nostalgic guitar-picking of "Izarharh Tenere" to the persistent percussion and layered vocals of "Assouf," Tinariwen's 2007 release *Aman Imam* is as cohesively catchy as it is politically conscious.

While I may still snuggle up to my returned travelers in the hopes that their Steven Spielberg script worthy adventures may rub off in osmosis, the rescued coffee table turned common room centerpiece already bears the nicks and stains stating that maybe Vermont is a veritable abroad experience in itself.

SEEN ON CAMPUS

I got my earrings in Luxor, Egypt at a market. I went swimming in the Red Sea with them and I think I climbed Mount Sinai, too.

This blue cardigan appeared in my room one day with a price tag on it, so I didn't question it. Turns out it was my sister's. I passively stole it from her before she had the chance to wear it. I wore it to work this summer pretty much every day.



My necklace is gold painted blue. It's from my grandma. All my favorite jewelry is from her. I think it's from an art fair in Saledo, Texas.

I got this purple lace dress at Urban Outfitters, kind of boring. I came up to Midd this summer and it was the first time I wore the dress. The strap broke and I was trying to fix it. I had the dress around my waist when some random guy walked into the bathroom. It was a rude return to co-ed college life.

Name: Lauren Fondren '09
Hometown: Houston, TX
Major: Theatre (Directing Focus)

Grace Duggan

Old Stone Mill exercises student ingenuity

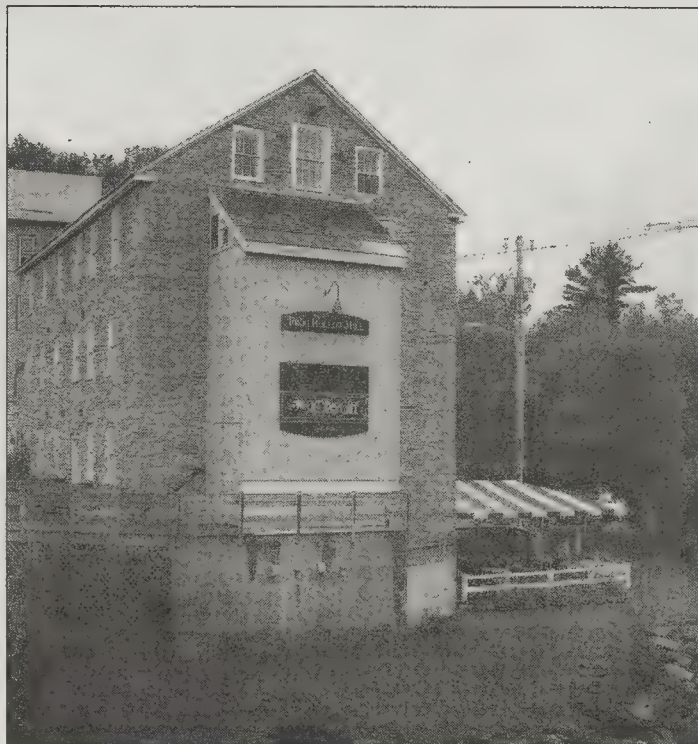
By Alexxa Gotthardt
STAFF WRITER

Since this past spring, an air of mystery and anticipation has surrounded two buildings that recently became part of the College landscape — 51 Main and Old Stone Mill. This fall, through the combined efforts of the College's administration and its students, the once obscure real estate ventures have established a distinct form. Together, 51 Main and Old Stone Mill combine as a dynamic duo of student creativity in downtown Middlebury.

The College's extracurricular history has been somewhat tension filled. In recent years, numerous new facilities that house classrooms and academic centers have risen up on our bucolic campus. While study spaces multiply, however, venues for student activities outside the academic ivory tower seem to diminish or fall into disrepair. Where are the studios, the student galleries, and the performance spaces? Numerous student groups, individuals, and members of the administration recognized the need for a place where students could create, independent of the pressures of academia. This fall the College has found a set of spaces it hopes will fulfill these long-awaited needs in Old Stone Mill and 51 Main.

In September 2007, the College announced its lease of the former Eat Good Food space at 51 Main Street in downtown Middlebury. In April 2008, after numerous discussions and e-mails discussing the building's future, the space opened its doors as a chic, comfortable bar and performance venue. In January 2008, when the College purchased the historic Old Stone Mill through the gift of an anonymous donor, a similar ambiguity veiled the acquisition. Talk of an arts-related space dominated the discussion, but the specifics of Old Stone Mill's function still remained unanswered.

While 51 Main has been in business for several months, Old Stone Mill opened its doors to students of the College and residents of Middlebury for the first time Sunday, Sept. 7 at an open house event. In a series of emails sent at the end of the summer, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz, Elizabeth Robinson, Director of the Project on Innovation and Creativity in the Liberal Arts and Barbara Doyle-Wilch, Director of Cultural Activities, announced Old Stone Mill as a "laboratory of student creativity" to exist in collaboration with 51 Main. The decision for the use of the space was made in response to what Robinson described as "a huge need for space for student creativity and innovation." Robinson and Doyle-Wilch serve as staff advisors for Old Stone Mill and 51 Main.



The Old Stone Mill, which houses the Storm Cafe and a new creative hub for the College, will harbor the creatively inclined.

The open house was offered as an introduction to the possibilities Old Stone Mill offers for creative and artistic ventures. Robinson and Wilch greeted visitors, but it was the students selected for Old Stone Mill's Review Board who manned the event. "The goal is to have students take over the planning, maintaining and promotion for the building," said Robinson. "We hope it will serve as a laboratory for new ideas, businesses and the Arts."

Visitors explored the four-story space, led by passionate members of Review Board, six

of architectural models were already being dreamed up at the open house. Exhibitions will be open to the public.

The subsequent floors of Old Stone Mill house an assortment of meeting rooms, dubbed "creativity rooms" by the Review Board, rehearsal and performance spaces, lounges and kitchens.

"What we hope to offer is a place to inspire, to encourage and to foster the creation and refining of new ideas that may not take off in a dorm room," said Ria Shroff '09, a member of the Review Board.

"Depending on their projects, students might use the spaces once a week or for a semester or maybe for a few hours. Regardless, our goal would be to ensure that their extra-curricular talents and ideas have a space where they could grow and change."

Old Stone Mill aims to attract creative ventures of all disciplines. According to Alex Benepe '09, a member of the Review Board, a diverse array of proposals have begun to sift in.

"[We hope] to allow student groups without an appropriate location on campus to have a place to set up a long term project, in any of the offices or larger studio or gallery spaces," said Benepe. "This can be anything ranging from studio arts and gallery openings, to a band or music project, to a research project or a small business."

As students begin to develop projects at



Andrew Ngeow

Old Stone Mill, 51 Main will serve as a performance venue for students who wish to show their work in a more public setting.

"We look to work together on possible art, music, theater and even culinary performances," said Shroff on the planned collaboration between the two spaces.

Together, Old Stone Mill and 51 Main are poised to become a powerful resource for creative growth and invention at the College, not to mention a rich source of entertainment for the community.

We hope that it will serve as a laboratory for new ideas.

—Elizabeth Robinson

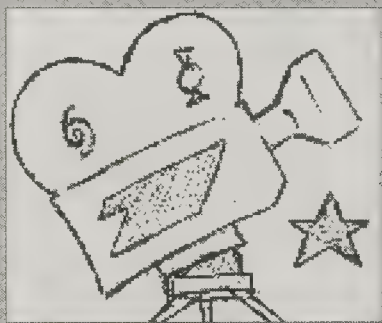
students culled from a variety of classes and majors. The space itself is large and bright, punctuated by many large windows, worktables and charmingly rough-hewn wooden doorways.

The entrance of Old Stone Mill opens into a student art gallery to be curated by Elyse McNiff, graduate intern at the Middlebury College Museum of Art. Currently, an exhibition of study abroad photographs hangs on the gallery's walls. McNiff explained, however, that future exhibitions would be less formal and based on student requests to show their work or organize a themed show. Musings on large-scale installations and exhibitions

Meet the Board

From 62 applications, the College chose six students to accompany faculty and staff in choosing the projects that will be cultivated, courted and structured to span academic fields and personal passions.

- Alex Benepe '09
- Chandler Koglmeier '09
- Elizabeth McMorris '09
- Cloe Shasha '11
- Ria Shroff '09
- Adam Volwiler '09
- Director of the Music Department Peter Hamlin '73
- Chair of Advisory Board on Creativity and Innovation Jessica Liebowitz
- Director of Athletics Erin Quinn
- Director of Project on Innovation and Creativity in Liberal Arts Liz Robinson
- Director of Cultural Activities Barbara Doyle-Wilch



THE REEL CRITIC

by Jason Guitierrez

MOVIE | Tropic Thunder
DIRECTOR | Ben Stiller
STARRING | Ben Stiller, Jack Black, Robert Downey Jr., Steve Coogan

Ben Stiller has always been hit and miss as an actor (hilarious in films like "Dodgeball" but does anyone remember 2003's "Duplex"? I didn't think so) and a director ("Reality Bites"? Not so much). So it is with his latest offering, the ninety-two million dollar war comedy "Tropic Thunder," a film of gut-busting hilarity one second and infuriating

inanity the next.

To call "Tropic Thunder" a spoof would not really do justice to the film, which revolves around a simple and intriguing "what-if" scenario: what if a group of prima-donna actors making a war film found themselves dropped in the middle of a jungle by a director who has found himself at his wits' end? What if this jungle was also the home of a heroin cartel that mistakes the actors for real military forces? That's the set-up. The payoff is watching Stiller (playing a beefed up action star), Jack Black (the comedian and heroin addict), and Robert Downey Jr. (the method actor in black face) try and make it work. The results are hit and miss, although they do hit far more often than not.

The film's highlights are almost entirely due to the cast members whose names aren't up on the marquee. Nick Nolte is hilarious and looks crazier than ever before as the real life soldier upon whose story the film-within-a-film is based. Steve Coogan is at his deadpan best as the film's frazzled director, and Judd Apatow regular Jay Baruchel is perfect as a young actor in a cast full of overpaid blowhards. I am reticent to mention one performer because the surprise of seeing the actor is half the fun, but I will say that a very well-known star in very good makeup is given the opportunity to go on the best profanity-laced

diatribes I've seen in a while, and that alone is worth the price of admission.

The real showstopper, though, is Robert Downey Jr., who embraces what could have been one of the more offensive roles in recent memory with such infectious energy that it is impossible not to get caught up in the performance and laugh. Downey Jr.'s career has been on an upswing recently with his star remaking roles in last year's "Zodiac" and one of this summer's other blockbusters, "Iron Man." "Tropic Thunder" is one more sign that the once troubled star is back in top form.

But, unfortunately, "Tropic Thunder" is far from the perfect comedy. Jack Black is an enormous comedic talent, but he was given far too little to do. He does get the film's best line, but his participation in the film was wasted on a character that is whiny and irritatingly unfunny.

The film tries to walk a very fine line between being a comedy and being a war film, with all the explosions and action that entails. The problem is that these integral parts of war films threaten to overtake the comedic aspects of the film. Stiller doesn't seem to be particularly interested in lampooning war films, so much as making a comedy that incorporates the generic trappings of war films. It is tricky business that doesn't always work

as successfully as one might hope, as the film threatens to overload the senses at times, thus relegating any humor to the background.

Another problem arises when Stiller & Co. attempt to lambaste the Hollywood machine. It is funny, but there is also a smack of disingenuousness about the swipes at Hollywood and the enormous egos that create the fantasies they market to global audiences. "Tropic Thunder" is a big budget feature that had the backing of a large studio. This is a product of the very machine Stiller so wants to critique. I don't mind him biting the hand that feeds, nor do I see anything particularly hypocritical about it, but occasionally you get the sense that Stiller doesn't really believe the satire he's selling, and it's at that point that the message becomes muddled and stops being funny. To top it off, many of the Hollywood jokes are so topical that they won't be funny six months from now, and some aren't even funny now because the zeitgeist has already moved on.

Really, though, those moments are few and far between. Most of "Tropic Thunder" is funny and monstrously entertaining, but my advice would be to catch it quick before the jokes get stale and it stops being a comedy that is part war film and starts being a war film that is funnier than the standard war flick.

XC runs wild at Plattsburgh

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

"We are not focusing on numbers, but on our ability to run as a team and in improving as the season continues," said Hallett.

On the women's side, nine new runners joined the squad to strengthen the team and replace the eight seniors who graduated in 2008. Krieg, an All-American in 2007, hopes to lead the team to nationals again, a common occurrence for a team that has qualified for the NCAA championships 14 out of the last 15 years. If the performance this past weekend dictates how the rest of its season will go, prepare to cheer on the teams this fall at nationals.

Both teams travel to Williams on Sept. 13 to compete in a co-ed partner relay race, while the Panther Invitational follows soon thereafter on Sept. 20.

sportsbriefs

Hauschka appears in NFL season opener for Ravens

Middlebury College graduate Steve Hauschka '07 became the first Middlebury graduate to appear in an NFL game when he handled kick-off duties for the Baltimore Ravens this weekend. Hauschka kicked-off four times for a respectable 69 yard average.

After spending training camp with the Minnesota Vikings, Hauschka was released during the final round of cuts. The Ravens, who had been one of the teams to initially show interest in the former Panther, stepped in and signed Hauschka off waivers to help supplement 19-year veteran Matt Stover. They are saying Hauschka will handle kick-off duties and some long field-goals.

—Peter Baumann, Sports Editor

The Middlebury Great Eight

Rank	Last	Team	Panzer Postulates
1	N/A	Men's Soccer (0-0)	Captain Bush and company will make sure the Panthers remain champions
2	N/A	Field Hockey (1-0)	After placing second at last year's NCAA championships, and starting off with a dominating 6-2 win over St. Lawrence, it is the team to beat.
3	N/A	Football (0-0)	The Panthers are the NESCAC champions and quarterback Donnie McKillop '11 will only improve.
4	N/A	Women's Soccer (0-1-1)	The team is historically successful, and this year should be no different.
5	N/A	Tennis	Both teams are hoping to rebound from tough losses at the end of last year.
6	N/A	Cross Country	Alexandra Krieg '09 is one baaaaad woman.
7	N/A	Volleyball (0-0)	Featuring a strong first-year class, the team hopes to rock the new black and white court.
8	N/A	Golf	It is awfully hard to golf while being eaten alive by bugs. Also, is Coach Beaney sure Harrison Bane '08.5 is still eligible?



File Photo/Jeff Patterson
Colin Nagle '10 is one of several strong defenders for the reigning NCAA champion men's soccer team.

Panthers turn eyes to NESCAC slate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Stevens scored on all five of its opportunities, resulting in a 5-3 penalty kick advantage that gave the Ducks the win. However, the Panthers played tough, reflecting the experience they gained abroad, having played club teams from the Netherlands and Germany on their 10-day tour of Europe this past August.

The following day, the Middlebury blue and white encountered the New York University (NYU) purple and white. With less than 10 minutes left in the game, NYU scored what proved to be the winning goal, and went on to win the tournament.

Owen explained that the challenge now facing the Panthers is to "extend our strong first half play to a full ninety minutes." Middlebury will also need to continue pressuring the goal, and this will most certainly be aided with the return of Pfaff and Nora Tomlinson-Weintraub '10, the two points leaders last season.

Senior tri-captains Zoe Victor '09, Caitlin Parker '09 and Orlowski, along with Coach Peter Kim, feel that the team is more mature than previous years and therefore will not lower its expectations for the season. Owen jokingly added, "We are still undefeated in NESCACs!"

Striker, Lindsay Walker '10, temporarily sidelined with an Achilles tendon injury, acknowledged the defeat but looked to the future optimistically.

"We just need to take it game by game, day by day and not look too far in advance," she said. Fellow junior Valerie Christy '10 agreed.

"The losses were a learning experience," said Christy, "and the team accepts and understands what we now have to do to keep on improving our game each and everyday." Christy added that Walker's return to the field this week will most definitely get the team on the right foot.

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INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

If there was any grumbling among the Middlebury athletes back on campus for preseason last week, it was not from Kerry Reilly's '10 mouth. The field hockey defender, eager to take up her stick and return to a team that captured second place in the NCAA championship last fall, could not be more enthusiastic about her teammates. "I'm not going to say they're like family, because that's really cheesy," said Reilly, "but we're all incredibly close and have a great time together."

But do they really know one another? Putting those hours of team bonding to the test, forward Logan Brown '11 faced Reilly's roommate Kyle Goodenough '10 in what was a veritable showdown of wits. While Goodenough has an extra year of friendship to work in her favor, Brown promised to measure up handily.

Over the past two years, Goodenough has consistently shown a thorough grasp of her fellow junior's likes and dislikes, anticipating her roommate's every action with uncanny accuracy. From Reilly's love of the "201" — her New Jersey area code — to her passion for flashy ski suits, the Environmental Economics major demonstrates a host of

The Campus catches up with Kerry Reilly '10			
	Kerry Reilly	Logan Brown	Kyle Goodenough
What kind of stick do you use on the field?	A blue Dita	She just switched to a Dita (1)	A Grays (0)
What have you affectionately named her car?	I'd rather not say	Are you going to publish this? (.5)	The...you can't write that (.5)
Which is your favorite vacation spot?	LBI, DUH	Her beach house (1)	The Jersey Shore (1)
What is your most often repeated catchphrase?	Hey, HEY, hey!	Shut up! (0)	Hey, HEY, hey! (1)
Who is your Hollywood counterpart/idol?	Lindsay Lohan	Lindsay Lohan (1)	LiLo, duh (1)
What are your goals for the 2008 season?	To win the NCAA Championship	To have a fun season (0)	To put fear in her opponents (0)
What is Kerry's favorite theme party?	Dirty Jerz	Gossip Girl (0)	Dirty Jerz (1)
Final Score		3.5	4.5

quirky tendencies — and Goodenough knows about them all.

While she ultimately succumbed to Goodenough's impressive-bordering-on-stalking awareness of Reilly's habits, Brown proved a

loyal companion, correctly identifying her teammate's choice of stick. Still, Goodenough displayed superior knowledge as well as a keen eye for the well-placed soundbite. "My friendship with Kerry has been an unforget-

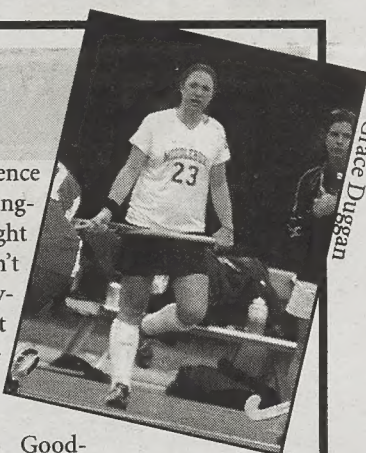
table experience — life-changing, some might say. I wouldn't change anything about her for the world."

It looks as though Goodenough won the challenge — both on the scoreboard and in Reilly's heart — though neither competitor was able to name the athlete's chief goal for the 2008 field hockey season.

Of her friends' performances, Reilly's feelings are mixed. "I didn't realize I came across as so enthusiastic about my hometown, but I guess they're right," she confessed. "In any case, they nailed my obsession with Lindsay Lohan on the head, and really, that's all that counts."

It's safe to say that #23 makes friends wherever she goes, thanks to her infectious enthusiasm and easygoing nature as well as her unwillingness to spare detail when it comes to theme parties.

— Emma Gardner, Sports Editor





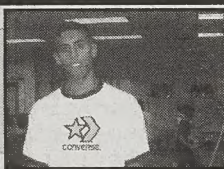
Grace Dugan

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Results	Comments
9/6	Women's Cross Country	Cardinal Classic	Second of Four	The Panthers actually tied for first in the first meet of the year at Plattsburgh, but finished second due to a tie-breaker.
9/6	Men's Cross Country	Cardinal Classic	Second of Five	The Panther men ran in groups of three, switching the lead every three minutes.
9/6	Women's Soccer	Stevens Institute of Technology	1-1 T	With a winner needing to be decided for tournament purposes, the Panthers lost 5-3 in a shootout.
9/7	Women's Soccer	NYU	1-0 L	NYU scored the only goal of the game with less than ten minutes remaining in regulation to nip the Panthers.
9/6	Field Hockey	St. Lawrence	6-2 W	It was the fourth consecutive victory in the season opener for Middlebury's five seniors.

BY THE NUMBERS

30	Average starting yard line for the Cincinnati Bengals following a kick-off from Middlebury graduate Steve Hauschka '07.
0	Number of field goals of more than 40 yards that Hauschka, who was signed in part for his ability to hit long field goals, missed during his graduate year at North Carolina St.
185	Weight listed for Hauschka in the North Carolina St. 2007 media guide.
210	Hauschka's weight according to the Baltimore Ravens 2008 media guide.
0	Number of field goals Hauschka has made on Middlebury's new field. He does, however, hold Middlebury's career and single season records at the old Youngman Field.

Editors' Picks					Guest editor of the week
Questions	Peter Baumann	Emma Gardner	Jeff Klein	Jaime Fuller, News	
Will men's soccer kick off its title defense with a win over Amherst?	YES The Panthers might not be the same team they were last year, and there might be growing pains along the way, but they are still the team to beat.	YES The rookies are sure to live up to the high standards set by last year's team.	YES The crowd will be fired up for the home opener and the Panthers will feed off of that.	YES Panthers eat Lords for breakfast.	
After scoring one goal in each of its first two games, will women's soccer score at least two goals vs. Amherst?	YES Middlebury should not have much trouble against an Amherst 'D' which surrendered five goals in its season opener at TCNJ.	YES The women will work hard to rebound from last weekend's loss and take Amherst by storm.	NO They might not get two, but the 'D' will come up big and allow the Panthers to pull out a close one.	YES See above. After being digested, a team's defense tends to suffer.	
Who wins Saturday's major college football showdown between Ohio St. and USC?	USC A healthy "Beanie" Wells will make somewhat of a difference, but not enough of one to help beat USC's tough, athletic defense.	OHIO ST. Because football is the only thing they have going for them out there in the Buckeye State.	USC The Buckeyes barely got by in-state "rival" Ohio this past weekend. Now they're supposed to beat the #1 team in the nation?	OHIO ST. Because Ohio's major export resembles a skinny, yellow football.	
Who wins Sunday's much-anticipated matchup between the Jets and Patriots?	PATRIOTS Man, raise your hand if you guessed a week ago they would enter this game as the underdog — yeah, me neither.	JETS I cheer for the team that beats the Red Sox, I mean Patriots.	JETS Brady is done for the year, and so is any dream of another perfect regular season for the Pats.	PATRIOTS My lack of a flag pin necessitates that I show my patriotism in another way — GO PATS!	
Who will be in first place in the AL East by the end of Sunday's games?	TAMPA BAY The Sox say they are now a team of role players — also known as a more expensive version of the Rays.	TAMPA BAY See above.	BOSTON I hate to say anything positive about the Sawx, but four games at Fenway does not bode well for the Rays.	BOSTON Who names their baseball team after an aquatic filter feeder?	
Career Record	52-43 (.547)	0-0 (.000)	24-27 (.471)	0-0 (.000)	

VOLLEYBALL

The volleyball team will debut a new look this season as the women shift domains and take over the Bubble following a summer of extensive flood damage to Pepin Gymnasium. The players look ahead to a competitive season filled with NESCAC championship dreams and a goal of "staying in the top half of the league," according to Molly Elmer-Dewitt '10.

The team returns almost intact this fall, but will likely suffer from the loss one of its star players, Lexie Fisher '08.5, who ended her four-year career at Middlebury last fall with first-team All-NESCAC honors.

"Lexie was our strongest hitter, so our offense is really going to change while our defense remains consistent," said Elmer-Dewitt. Still, co-captains Lindsay Patterson '08.5 and Reisa Bloch '09 are sure to step up to the net and assert leadership over a changing set-up.

In particular, the Panther defense,

a strength last year, should once again be very reliable. With libero Natalie DuPre '10 back anchoring the middle, and a stable of strong blockers to provide a good first line, Middlebury will rely on its defense to pick up the slack while their offense works out the early season kinks.

First-years Jane Handel '12 and Caroline Cordle '12 also enter the scene this fall, and bring with them plenty of young talent and enthusiasm. Their addition provides the perfect amount of new blood to an already talented and experienced team.

Head coach Sarah Raunecker will once again be guiding from the sidelines at the Panthers' Sept. 12 opener against Amherst. The Middlebury alumna continues a long career with the program, having served as assistant coach in the team's first-ever season in '93 and as head coach in the 14 seasons since then.

— Emma Gardner, Sports Editor

CROSS COUNTRY

After an intensive, quality pre-season and with one meet already completed, both the men's and women's cross country teams are well on their way to an exciting season. The teams find strength in "consistent strong training on hilly terrain and dedication to the miles as well as strong leadership from the captains," said coach Nicole Wilkerson.

The talented core of the women's team continues to improve, a group that is now complemented by a strong incoming class. The team is led by tri-captains Alexandra Krieg '09, Charlotte Bemis '09, and Hallie Fox '09. Last year Krieg, having finished 3rd at Nationals, continued to improve during the track season, setting new school records in the 5k and 10k and earning All-American honors in both. Many other returners have recovered from injuries and are eager for a healthy team.

"The men's team has been very

competitive right from the get-go," said tri-captain Bruce Hallett '10, who leads alongside Rainey Johnson '09 and Peter Murphy '09. The men's team benefits from the great camaraderie within the team members and looks forward to the contributions of many new talented first years.

"It is a long season and in September the team works hard in both quantity and quality of work," said Wilkerson. The men's and women's cross country teams will work steadily, peaking at the big meets towards the end of the season. Although the NESCAC meet will be held in Maine this year on November 1, the teams will be seeing all of their rivals on Oct. 7 at the Open New England meet. Come support the team at home when Middlebury hosts a dual meet with Williams next weekend and again for the Middlebury Invitational on Sept. 20.

— Evan Daniel, Staff Writer

MEN'S SOCCER

After capturing its first-ever NCAA Championship last year and a school record of 18 wins against two losses and two ties, the men's soccer team is gearing up for what promises to be another dazzling season.

David Saward is back for his 24th season as Head Coach, this time with the additional title of NSCAA/Adidas National Coach of the Year. While the team has a number of new accolades to proudly display in Kenyon's trophy case, the graduation of several star players last spring has left room for improvement on both the offensive and defensive sides. The men will strive to reinforce their attack strategy, relying on solid defense and midfield players along with the addition of fresh talent on the field.

First-years to look out for include Robbie Redmond '12 and Vermont's own Tyler Macnee '12 — two young players who will surely

light up the field this fall. As tri-captains Brian Bush '09, Allen Bourdon '08.5 and Baer Fisher '09 return for their final season, the team will receive direction from three veteran Middlebury soccer players with high hopes for the year.

"We've lost a really talented group of five seniors," admits Fisher. "But with the addition of the freshmen, new players should step into new roles and we should be alright. We're just as talented — if not more so — than we have been in other years."

The men play Amherst at home on Sept. 13 in a battle that will likely display the capabilities of the new lineup as well as introduce the crowd to some new faces.

On the heels of the most successful season in the program's history, the men hope to dribble their way to another pair of NESCAC and NCAA victories.

— Emma Gardner, Sports Editor

FIELD HOCKEY

Coming within a goal of the NCAA title in 2007, the Middlebury field hockey team begins this season with extra motivation. Finishing the job in 2008, however, will have to come without the services of Reid Berrien '08 and Lacey Farrell '08, last year's goals and assists leaders, respectively. As seniors, the two stand-out players earned All-American honors at the end of last season from the National Field Hockey Coaches Association.

Despite the void left by Berrien and Farrell, the Panthers still have considerable talent and experience, especially in Taryn Petrelli '09 and Heather McCormack '10, who both made the NCAA All-Tournament team last year. Petrelli and Caitlin Pentifallo '09 will captain the squad

this fall and try to provide veteran leadership to the seven first-years.

"Our freshmen class is very talented and versatile, and will probably make a big impact right away," said Pentifallo.

The Panther offense that tallied 77 goals last season (3.47 per game) should be a particularly strong area this year, according to Pentifallo. "We are especially excited about our forwards and offensive system in general," she said. "We play a high-tempo game that I expect will be a lot of fun to watch."

Improving upon last year's 17-5 record and trip to the NCAA finals will surely be a tall order, but the team definitely has the necessary ingredients to rise to the occasion.

— Jeff Klein, Sports Editor

WOMEN'S SOCCER

After finishing with a 9-5-2 record a year ago and ending the season with a disappointing loss in the NESCAC semi-finals, women's soccer enters the year with an experienced and talented roster.

Graduation mainly hit the Panthers on the back line, where they lost second-team All-NESCAC performer Elise Tarbi '08 and classmate Kim Kennedy '08. To make up for these losses, head coach Peter Kim has moved Ari-juli Demers '10, a two-year starter and All-NESCAC performer, to one of the team's two center-back positions. Demers and Zoe Victor '09 will anchor the defense, while Lauryn Torch '11 and Adele Plunkett '09 will likely share time between the pipes.

Their job is made easier by the potent Panther offense, a unit that returns virtually intact from the squad that finished second in the Conference a year ago in goals-per-game. Caitlin Parker '09, Margret Owen '10 and Nora Tomlinson-Weintraub '10 each played significant roles last year, and last year's

leading scorer, Ashley Pfaff '09, will provide added punch off the bench.

To help add to their offensive output, the team has fully embraced a new strategy. The Panthers will use their outside backs to initiate the offense from the wings to open up room in the middle for Middlebury's playmakers to operate.

"Our outside defenders are really strong," said Tomlinson-Weintraub, "and they will be really important for our success this year."

The team came up short in their two opening games this past weekend, but nonetheless recognizes the opportunity that exists.

"We all realize that we have an amazing amount of potential," said Tomlinson-Weintraub. "Now we just need to capitalize on it."

With reigning league champion Williams once again looking strong, watch for the Panthers to find themselves in a dogfight at the top of the standings.

— Peter Baumann, Sports Editor

GOLF

The men's and women's golf teams hope to improve upon solid seasons last year and swing their way to further success. The women's team is marked by youth, but don't mistake such youth for inexperience.

"Everyone has some great tournament experience under their belts and is ready to go this fall," said captain Julie Ellenberger '09. The lone first-year on the squad, Flora Weeks '12, "will be a great addition to our team and is a very solid and promising player," said Ellenberger.

As for what the team plans to focus on in practice? "Golf is all about the short game and being able to think on your feet and hit creative shots," said Ellenberger, "so we will be spending a lot of practice time on that to make sure that we're ready."

Having reached the NCAA tournament the last two years, the team hopes to ultimately make it a third, but does not want to think too far in advance. "Our division is getting more and more competitive

every year," said Ellenberger, "so we have to focus on one tournament at a time."

The men's squad has similarly high expectations to match, having finished in a tie for second at NESCACs last spring. Harry Bane '08.5 returns as captain for the second year in a row and will try to lead the Panthers to victory beginning this Saturday, Sept. 13th in the Duke Nelson Tournament.

"The men's golf team this year brings back a lot of guys with a lot of experience," said Bane. The goals he articulated for the team were simple, yet profound: "be more process-focused and let the results take care of themselves."

The team will hit the road for the majority of the season after this weekend, but one bonus for the Panthers is that they get to host the NESCACs this spring, something Bane acknowledges the team is very excited about.

— Jeff Klein, Sports Editor

TENNIS

Tennis has always been one of Middlebury's strengths, and this year figures to be no different. The men are poised to make another deep run in the NAAs after finishing the season with an 18-7 record and a berth in the semifinals.

Having compiled an astounding 130-32 record during his time at Middlebury, head coach Dave Schwarz is at the helm for his ninth season and will have considerable talent to work with. Lone senior Conrad Olson '09 hopes to team up with talented underclassmen to bring the Panthers their first NCAA championship since 2004.

"The team is looking good and everyone seems to be in shape and playing sharp tennis so far," said Olson. "We have five juniors abroad right now but we have three new solid freshmen."

According to Olson, Coach Schwarz has emphasized consistency and minimizing unforced errors. "Coach Schwarz said that the only time you should ever miss a ball is

when you go for a high percentage aggressive shot," Olson said. "He also talked about the importance of staying positive and not allowing things you can't control to affect you during a match."

For the men, the goal is clear. "Our goal is always to win the NCAA title and we know it will take hard work," said Olson, "but we want nothing less."

The women also have high hopes for this year and are looking to improve considerably upon a first-round NESCAC defeat this past spring. Coaching will certainly prove a major asset on this team — in just his second year at Middlebury, head coach Mike Morgan was named NESCAC Coach of the Year at the end of last season. Co-captains Clare Burke '09 and Elizabeth Stone '09 will provide veteran leadership to the five first-years on the team, which, according to Burke, "is a big class for our small team and something that we're really excited about."

— Jeff Klein, Sports Editor

FOOTBALL

After winning its first outright NESCAC championship in 2007, the Middlebury football team enters the 2008 season in an unfamiliar position. Its championship status means that, for the first time in recent memory, the team enters the season at the forefront of any discussion of league favorites. While this role means that the Panthers will not be able to surprise foes like they might have at times last year, captain Andrew Matson '09 feels that the team will embrace the new role.

"Our success last fall puts a target on our back this season, so we won't be sneaking up on anyone, he said. "Every team that we play is going to bring their 'A' game, and I feel confident that we will be ready."

Matson, who finished last year tied for third in the conference with seven touchdowns over the team's eight games, returns to lead what should be a potent offense. Donnie McKillop '11, fresh off a first-year campaign which ended in ECAC Rookie of the Year honors, is back to direct the unit from under center and is looking to build on his 57 percent completion percentage from a year ago, a number that was already good enough for second in the conference.

Despite continuing to run the fast-paced, shotgun offense that they implemented last year, the Panthers will once again lean

heavily on their running game. Gary Cooper '11, Ryan Bohling '10 and Andrew Plumley '11 should all receive significant carries, and they will be running behind a quick, athletic offensive line that not only lends itself to Middlebury's zone blocking scheme, but also returns almost intact from the team's NESCAC championship a year ago.

On the defensive side of the ball, Middlebury must find replacements for All-NESCAC nose-tackle Chad Guerrero '08 and ECAC Defensive Player of the Year, middle linebacker Eric Woodring '08. While a series of injuries have made finding a replacement for Guerrero difficult, Eric Kamback '10, who started at outside linebacker last year, has had an impressive preseason after moving inside to fill Woodring's shoes.

With strong, physical safeties and good speed rushers on the edge, look for the Middlebury defense to blitz early and often this season, leading to plenty of opportunities for the talented group.

With such a talented returning squad, and mid-season road-trips to Williams and Trinity likely to decide the season, Matson maintains the team is not looking past anyone.

"Our mindset is no different from the past," he said. "All we are focused on is going 1-0, one game at a time."

— Peter Baumann, Sports Editor



Grace Duggan

Dana Heritage '11 and the field hockey team kicked off the fall sports season in style, beating St. Lawrence 6-2 at home.

Win eludes women in New Jersey

By Maeve McGilloway
STAFF WRITER

This past weekend the Middlebury women's soccer team participated in the fifth annual Stevens Institute of Technology tournament in Hoboken, N.J., which resulted in a mixed bag — a tie on Saturday, Sept. 6 to Stevens (1-1) and a loss on Sunday, Sept. 7 to NYU (0-1). The squad had to travel without its two first-years, Devin Perkins '12 and Kaitlin Surdoval '12, who remained on campus to take part in Orientation activities.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Middlebury	1
Stevens Institute	1

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Middlebury	0
N.Y.U.	1

The Panthers first game of the tournament was against the Stevens Ducks. Although ducks would be no match for panthers in the animal kingdom, these ducks were not only the 'Engineering Cup' hosts but also

the tournament winners last year. After a scoreless first half, midfielder Margaret Owen '10 converted a well-placed lead pass from fellow midfielder Anne Ford '10 to put Middlebury on the scoreboard. Stevens goalkeeper Jenn Pontier stepped out of the goalmouth as well as her comfort zone. Owen took advantage of Pontier's vulnerability and broke away from three surrounding defenders, scoring a straight-on goal.

The Panthers lost their 1-0 lead twenty-five minutes into the second half when a Stevens defender tied the game with a long-shot goal in the upper ninety. Officially the game ended in a stalemate and will be recognized by the NCAA as a tie, but for tournament purposes the two teams needed overtime play to de-



File Photo/Jeff Patterson

Lauryn Torch '11 anchors the Panther defense in net.

termine an outright winner.

The Panthers fought through two overtime periods but the game came down to penalty kicks, pitting Middlebury sophomore goalkeeper, Lauryn Torch '11, against Stevens goalkeeper Pontier. In this shootout, Panthers Anjuli Demers '10, Ashley Pfaff '09 and Tiffany Orlowski '09 were all able to place the ball out of the goalie's reach in the upper corners.

SEE PANTHERS TURN, PAGE 20

Cross country puts forth a strong effort

Sarah Bryan
STAFF WRITER

Middlebury's cross country team hit the ground running this past weekend in Plattsburg, N.Y. Tri-captains Hallie Fox '09, Alexandra Krieg '09 and Charlotte Bemis '09 led the women's team to a first-place tie with Plattsburg, last year's NCAA national champions, while Rainey Johnson '09, Pete Murphy '09 and Bruce Hallett '10 guided the men to a second-place finish.

Both teams treated the race as a warm-up for their upcoming fall season and were very pleased with their performance.

"We ran how we had planned to run," said Hallett, "and this weekend's race is encouraging for the rest of the season, especially after ten strenuous days of preseason."

The men ran in groups of three, with the lead runner switching positions every three minutes. The

women took the race with a similar strategy, running in slightly larger packs of five.

"The point of the Plattsburg race was to practice running in tight groups," said Annie Sullivan '10, "and although the times are individually recorded, we always run as a team."

After losing last year's All-American team leader, captain Jimmy Butcher '08, the men's team picked up 12 new first-years, all of whom have tremendous talent. With so many new faces, the team looks to the younger runners for stability in an already competitive program. Furthermore, practicing with a larger team will make training runs more enjoyable and allow for flexibility with pacing. As the season gets underway, the team hopes to stay strong, peaking in November at the end of the season.

SEE XC RUNS, PAGE 20

Field hockey off to encouraging start

By Mia Lieb-Lappen
STAFF WRITER

Ten years ago, in 1998, the Middlebury College field hockey team found its way to the top and won the national championships. Last year they fell short, losing by one to Bowdoin in the finals. Today, the Panthers are in position to once again become NESCAC champions and possibly contend for a national title.

"We have a high-scoring, stronger team this year," said defender Kerry Riley '10. According to Reilly, a successful season is attainable especially if the team follows coach Katharine DeLorenzo's expectation to always be a fitter team, a faster team and a relentless team.

This season the field hockey team made several midfield and attack positional adjustments to which this higher scoring will hopefully be attributed. This was demonstrated in last Saturday's game, as the offense drilled 19 shots on goal to St. Lawrence's six, resulting in a 6-2 victory to start off the season. Chase Delano '11, who scored a hat trick after being moved from midfield to offense, led the aggressive offense and Heather McCormack '10 added two goals as well. Emily Blaine '12 also contributed to the board, scoring her first career goal to ensure Middlebury's victory.

Blaire is one of seven who made the team out of the 13 first-years who tried out for field hockey this fall. "The freshman are a loud and fun class ... they are strong players who add a lot and fit right in," said Reilly. "It is really good to see the underclassmen take leadership positions on field."

Also leading the team is the goalie and "eyes of the field," Caitlin Pentifallo '09, and feisty left back Taryn Petrelli '09, who sets the pace for the team. Pentifallo and Petrelli along with three other seniors bring

the team together athletically and socially, "with lots of flair," added Reilly. "The team is really close and we really enjoy each other's company and have lots of fun together. This really shows on the field as we support each other and continue to make good connections," she said. Saturday's game proved their ability to do so with back passes and field transfers as they came out strong in

FIELD HOCKEY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

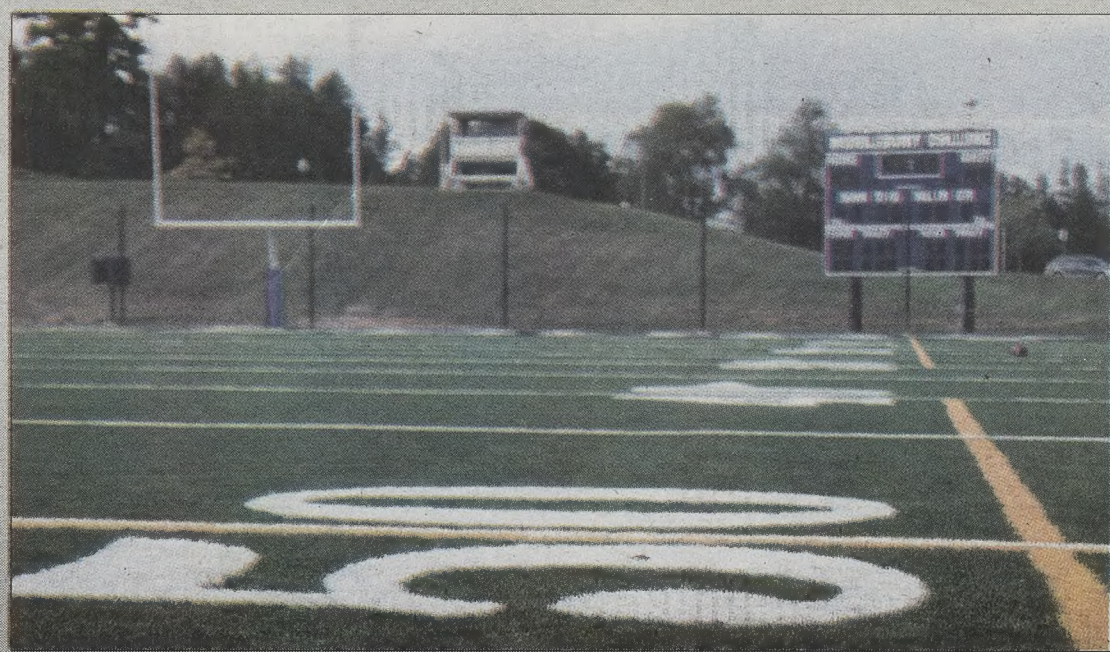
Middlebury	6
St. Lawrence	2

the first half to lead 5-1.

Harvard field hockey camp and a ball machine nicknamed "George" are two good instigators for the camaraderie and improvement of the team. The girls went to a three day field hockey camp at Harvard two weeks before preseason, which brought the team together and was a nice introduction for the new players. And thanks to George, named for its resemblance to a George Foreman Grill, the team has improved rebounding and finishing skills.

The players' skills and cooperation coupled with an exceptional coaching staff are crucial for another strong season. Coach DeLorenzo, who stopped a preseason practice to watch a fox running by, also means business on the field and holds the team to high expectations. Assisting her is last year's captain and All-American, Reid Berrien '08 who helps raise the morale with her witty personality and recent experience. Moreover, assistant coach Heidi Howard '99, who was a member of the 1998 national championship team, is ready to make it happen again.

Expect big things from the field hockey team this year, for it seems to have the footwork of another championship team.



Andrew Ngeow

NEW FIELD TURF INSTALLED ON YOUNGMAN FIELD

A year after the new turf field was opened for men's soccer, it's the Middlebury football team's turn to begin its season on new turf. The new state-of-the-art surface at Alumni Stadium is essentially a thick carpet held together by rubber and sand above a concrete base, the combination of which replicates real grass. The Panthers home opener is set for Sept. 20 vs. Bowdoin, where they will look to drive the Polar Bears into the Turf.

this week in sports

Inside the Locker Room:
Kerry Reilly '10
Who knows the junior defender better? page 21



game to watch

Men's soccer vs. Amherst, Sept. 13 at 2 p.m.
Women's soccer vs. Amherst, Sept. 13 at noon.



Fall Sports Preview

Turn inside to catch a glimpse of the fall outlook for Panther athletics, page 22